



Meccazette

Oasis of Washington, Desert of D.C.
1908 ~ 101st Year ~ 2009
Illustrious Commandress—Sylvia L. Owens

Mecca Court No. 2
DOI-PHA
www.meccacourt2.com

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Photographs by Dt. Rosalie E. Powell

The New Century Begins!



On December 8, 2008, Jr. Past Commandress *Ada A. Whitley* passed the torch to newly elected *Sylvia L. Owens* as the 101st Illustrious Commandress of Mecca Court No. 2.

The elections were conducted by Imperial Deputy of the Oasis *Jane Robinson-Levant*. Illustrious Commandress *Sylvia L. Owens* gave a very heartfelt and sincere acceptance speech and her appreciation for the confidence the members have in electing her to this position.

The officers also elected and appointed for 2009 to assist her are:

1st Lt. Comm. *Mollie Q. Covington*; 2nd Lt. Comm. *Vera H. Smith*; High Priestess *Patricia L. Young*; Oriental Guide *Sonia R. Young*; Ill. Rec. HPC *Aline S. Thomas*; Ill. Treasurer *Patricia A. Irving*; 1st Ceremonial Dt. *E. Milla' Jordan*; 2nd Ceremonial Dt. *Barbara B. Dixon*; Inside Spy *Cynthia J. Taylor*; Outside Spy *Brenda L. Bradford*; Marshal *Mary E. McWilliams*; Asst. Marshal *Carolynn M. Ellis*; Musician HPC *Jacquelyn S. Kelley*; Asst. Musician HPC *Mary C. Chisholm*; Asst. Recordress HPC *Yvonne R. Smith*; Correspondence Asst. HPC *Elizabeth L. Howard*; Dir Jr. *Isiserettes Elaine D. Thomas-Jackson*; Dir. Sr. *Isiserettes Annette Scarborough*; Asst. to Rec HPC *Carolyn Hunter*; Asst. Treasurer *Barbara T. Jones*; Editor Meccazette HPC *Elizabeth L. Howard*; Special Asst to IC *Brenda Makins*;

Ct Reporter/Publicity *Rosalie E. Powell*; Administrative Assistants—*Mary A. Allison, Regina Bolden-Woodard, HPC Betty J. Alexander*; Website Administrator *Renee Kearney*; Photography Coordinator HPC *Yvonne R. Smith*; Photographers *Rosalie E. Powell, PC Betty C. V. Reed, Eunice J. Dingle, Bonita L. Bell*.

The inaugural meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2009 with guests including Ill. Potentate *Darryl Dowling* and the members of Mecca Temple No. 10.

IMPERIAL COURT APPOINTED OFFICERS!

~~ REMINDER ~~

Please bring your patents to Court Meeting to have the Illustrious Commandress present them to you in Open Court! This must be done within three meetings after receipt of the patent!!

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2009

22—JAJGC Annual Dinner & Divine Service, Masonic Temple. Dinner at 2:00 PM, Service at 4:00 PM.

24—Mecca Court Meeting, Inaugural Meeting, 7:30 PM, Ballroom, Pictures at 6:00 PM.

28—GTGC Second School of Instruction, 10:00 AM.

MARCH 2009

10—Line Officers Training, 7:00 PM, IC Office.

16—CPR Classes for membership & Community.

22—MWPGLH Ann. & Divine Service, 4:00 PM, Mt. Moriah BC.

24—Mecca Court Meeting, Ballroom, 7:30 PM.

27-28—Mid-Atlantic Conf. of Grand Masters/Matrons in NC.

28—GTGC 3rd School of Instruction, 10:00 AM.

SAVE THE DATE!
Mecca Court No. 2, Illustrious Commandress Ball

“Spring Time on the Nile”

Saturday, May 2, 2009

At Martin's Crosswinds

Tickets will be available

TONIGHT!

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Deadline for Articles and Black & White Pictures for next issue—Friday before next Court Meeting March 24, 2009)

Special points of interest:

Equestrian Riders Wanted!

Imp. Court Appointed Officers Reminder!

Ride for Charity!

MARDI GRAS - HAPPY FAT TUESDAY!!

**EQUESTRIAN RIDERS
WANTED!**

Any Daughter interested in becoming an Equestrian Rider at the 2009 Convention in Atlanta should contact PC Margaret E. Anderson at 301/324-1225

**WebSite Administrator
NOTICE!**

Daughters, please submit changes in your address, telephone number **and** your e-mail address to:

Dt. Renee Kearney at
202/345-1211 or via e-mail at
mecca@meccacourt2.com

Also, provide a list of desired committees you want to work on as well!!!

**Black History
Moment!**

1972—Gospel Music legend Mahalia Jackson dies in Evergreen Park, IL.

1966— Military leaders oust Kwame Nkrumah, president of Ghana while he is in Beijing on a Peace mission to stop the Vietnam War.

Good News and Other Blessings!

The Officers and Members of Calvary Episcopal Church elected *HPIC Thelma J. Tyler* as their delegate to the Diocesan Convention. The term is three (3) years.

At the 116th Annual Grand Communication of the Georgiana Thomas Grand Chapter the following daughters were elected:

**Your Health & Safety by HPIC Thelma J. Tyler & Dt. Raina L. Taylor,
Health Coordinator — January National Glaucoma Awareness
Month!****What is Glaucoma?**

Glaucoma is caused by progressive damage to the optic nerve, usually resulting from a buildup of fluid pressure inside the eye. This pressure causes damage to the optic nerve from abnormally high eye pressure or poor circulation. Warning signals may include loss of contrast, difficulty driving at night and loss of peripheral vision. Routine eye exams and tests of the visual field are the key to detecting glaucoma at an early stage.

Risk Factors:

Anyone can get glaucoma. People at higher risk are:

1. Blacks over age 40
2. Everyone over age 60
3. Persons with a family history of glaucoma.

Financial Aid for Eye Care:

1. National Eye Care Project (1-800-222-EYES) Provides free and low cost eye exams to US Citizens 65 and older.
2. Vision USA (1-800-766-4466) Provides free eye care to uninsured, low-income workers and their families.

Upcoming Desert Conferences:

Maryland—March 3-5, 2009, Ocean City, MD

DC—April 12, 2009, Wash, DC

Virginia—April 16-18, 2009, Richmond, VA

GWM—*Dianne L. Hearn*

AGM — *G. Delores Ellerbe*

GC—*Barbara E. Murray*

AGC—*Venecia C. Bessellie*

Grand Trustee—*Marilyn Bridgette*

Grand Trustee—*Nancy Carter*

Congratulations to ALL!!

3. Lions Club International (1-630-571-5466) [also check your local directory] Provides financial assistance to individuals through local clubs.
4. Mission Cataract USA (1-800-343-7265) [Coordinated by volunteer eye surgeons] Provides free cataract surgery to people of all ages who have no other means to pay.
5. Celebrate Sight: *DO YOU KNOW YOUR GLAUCOMA RISK?* (1-800-391-EYES) Provides free examinations and treatment for glaucoma patients who don't have medical insurance.
6. The Medicine Program (573/996-7300) Assists people to enroll in programs that provide prescription medicines free of charge to those in need.
7. Sight for Students (1-800-290-4964) Provides eye exams and glasses to children 18 years old or younger whose families cannot afford vision care.
8. You may contact a social

worker at a local hospital or other community agency that can put you in touch with local agencies that provide financial assistance for medical problems.

Glaucoma Symptoms and Treatment

Glaucoma has no early obvious symptoms and it progresses slowly. You may therefore not realize that your field of vision is decreasing. Routine eye exams and tests of the visual field are the key to detecting glaucoma at an early stage. Glaucoma can cause a loss of distinction. An example is not being able to distinguish between the sidewalk and the curb or missing a step on the stairs. The treatment options are always progressing therefore it is necessary to visit your doctor for regular tests including a contrast test.

Please be aware that the members of the Imperial CPR Team are available to provide classes for the churches in this Jurisdiction. (HPIP Ralph Turner, HPIP Melvin Graves, HPIC Thelma J. Tyler)

Junior Isiserettes Visit Mecca Court!

first place. The check and love tokens were presented by *IC Ada A. Whitley*. In addition, they received \$200 donation from the proceeds of Mecca Court's retreat held in June 2008. That check was presented by *IDO Jane Robinson Levant*.

It is anticipated that the funds received will help defray the cost of the Isiserettes next competition to be held in Atlanta, GA this year.

Please continue to support our Isiserettes!!

NOTICE: Dt. Rosalie E. Powell is looking for any daughter interested in cycling with her on May 9, 2009 in Cooksville, MD for the Ill. Comm. Charity? Giver her a call!!

At the December 8, 2008, meeting of Mecca Court, then *IC Ada A. Whitley* received eight (8) of the members of the Junior Isiserettes! The Isiserettes came in first place in the Drill competition in Kansas City in August 2008. On this evening they presented Mecca Court with their championship trophy.

The Isiserettes received \$2,000 from the Imperial Council for their winning