



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service

Montgomery (AL) Chapter

Spring 2022

Message from the President



The Links, Incorporated Montgomery (AL) Chapter State of the Chapter (April 2022)

This second year has been a continuation of what we started in the first year of the biennium. We ended the previous year and started the new one focused on the COVID-19 crisis once again. Starting in June, we sponsored a billboard encouraging people to get vaccinated. This billboard was up in two locations until mid-August, thanks to a grant from the area through the Mask To Protect, Unmask to Inform initiative. Additionally, we partnered with Trenholm State Community College and Parks Pharmacy to hold three (3) separate COVID clinics on both of Trenholm's campuses.

Our annual retreat was held in August. There we heard from all facet committees regarding their plans for the upcoming year. We also heard from Link Tracy Adams of the TRI-County (AL) Chapter with a refresher on Strategic Planning. We are entrenched in finalizing our strategic plan and carrying out all our directives

A few highlights from our 21-22 chapter year:

- Services To Youth and The Arts co-sponsored a S.T.E.A.M. 5-week summer initiative educating the Kershaw YMCA, Cleveland Ave YMCA and Upward Bounds students in all S.T.E.A.M. areas.
- National Trends and Services spearheaded the day of service activity on June 5, 2021 coordinating the collection of professional dress clothing for students at ASU.
- Health and Human Services led the Links In Pink initiative once again and all facets participated.
- We performed many random acts of kindness during Friendship month in November.
- Our holiday party in December was centered around a Charcuterie Board contest where everyone had fun and all teams were winners.
- We partnered with the Tuskegee Chapter for an outstanding Redstravaganza in February. It was based at Link Porcia's office complete with red carpet and photos of many of us in our red dresses. The in person activities were followed by an educational presentation online from several local cardiologists and other health professionals. This was moderated by our own cardiologist, Link Beverly.
- National Trends and Services hosted a home buying series during the month of February. Also in February, Services to Youth partnered with International Trends and Services to present the LIFE program to our Upward Bound students.
- We continued to celebrate ourselves with praise breaks monthly and White Rose awards quarterly. We also celebrated others highlighting once again breast cancer survivors during the month of October.
- We kept up our walking and our mental health minutes each month. And we updated our bylaws once again. We're on track for another All Star year!

Love,

Link Ann

Health and Human Services Update

The Montgomery Chapter certified 8 Links as Health Equity Ambassador Links (H.E.A.L). They are charged with leading efforts to educate the community about different types of cancers. The H.E.A.L. Ambassadors include: Monica Arrington, Brenda Deramus-Coleman, Kendra Gillis Colvin, Bridgett Donaldson, Vera Jordan, Porcia Love, Penni McClammy, Denise Vaughn.

Twelve Links also participated in the 75 Million Steps Campaign in March. The Montgomery Chapter recorded 2,800,000 steps.

Praise Break



We say that programming is the heart of Links, well we are so very blessed the Montgomery Chapter has our very own cardiologist, Dr. Beverly Stoudemire-Howlett makes sure our hearts are in great shape!

Link Beverly is our April Praise Break. Professionally, she is a dedicated and highly sought after cardiologist with nearly 40 years of care to many. She is always willing to lend her expertise and knowledge and willingly served on many panels, boards and with educational forums. She has served with love since joining Links in 2000.

She is married to Connecting Link James Howlett and is a loving, doting caregiver for her 97 year old mother. Link Beverly is a member of many organizations, including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. Link Beverly is a busy woman...but never too busy to offer a kind smile, or an encouraging word.

Poet Susan Polis Schulz, shares: My day always becomes wonderful when I see your pretty face smiling so sweetly, There is such warmth and intelligence radiating from you it seems that everyday you grow smarter and more beautiful.

Thank you for all you do Link Beverly and we celebrate you our sister with this Praise Break!

Parliamentary Tip

**“So, why do we have to follow all these rules of parliamentary procedure?
They seem so nit-picky and overly formal.”**

Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised, 12th Edition justifies the use of parliamentary procedure this way:

“Parliamentary procedure enables the overall membership of an organization – expressing its general will through the assembly of its members – both to establish and empower an effective leadership as it wishes, and at the same time to retain exactly the degree of direct control over its affairs that it chooses to reserve to itself.”

Ok, that’s a mouthful!

Perhaps more simply stated, parliamentary procedure and rules, though detailed and sometimes tedious, ensure the right of both the majority and minority members of an organization to be heard, and allow an organization to conduct business in an efficient, reliable and stable manner.

Protocol Pearls

October: The attire for Chapter Meetings: Appropriate attire should always reflect the Links tradition and high standards. The monthly Chapter Meetings is business attire as reflected in the Protocol Manual. Please dress accordingly, unless authorized by the Chapter President for special circumstances.

November: At a Chapter event when the National President and Area Director are attending, such as fundraisers and anniversaries, the Area Director of her Area is introduced just prior to the National President. All attendees stand when the Area Director is introduced and are asked to remain standing for the introduction of the National President

January: Who Speaks for the Chapter: The Chapter President speaks for the Chapter – only on Chapter issues. The Chapter President may designate individuals to represent her for specific events or to represent the Chapter at the Chapter level before other organizations or the media.

February: The National Pledge and Song of The Links, Incorporated should begin all closed (Links only) meetings, such as National and Area plenary sessions and Chapter meetings. The Links Pledge and Song are not used in public or social events (e.g. Civic Luncheons, Award Luncheons, White Rose Banquet, Chapter fundraisers, etc.) where non-Links are present. Meditations or “Linkspirations” have been customarily used in The Links, Incorporated public or social events.

March: The official pin is always worn on the left side near your heart. The Official Pin should never be worn with casual clothing or at casual events (jeans, shorts, capris, sweatpants, sundresses, t- shirts, tennis shoes, etc.).

April: The current President is addressed, introduced, etc. as the National President and not by the number (17th National President) until she leaves office. The numerical designation for the National President is used when she leaves the office.

Services to Youth

Services to Youth was excited to welcome the students from STEAM Academy to its first face-to-face event for the year on April 23. We had 17 students and 3 chaperones. The students enjoyed an informative discussion with the playwright where they asked questions and explored the Freedom Riders and their historic significance. The talk was followed by a picnic lunch and the production, Freedom Riders.

Additionally, Services to Youth worked with the ARTs Facet on the Poster Competition and the Linking Legos to Arts. Students from multiple high schools in the River Region participated in both competitions.

