

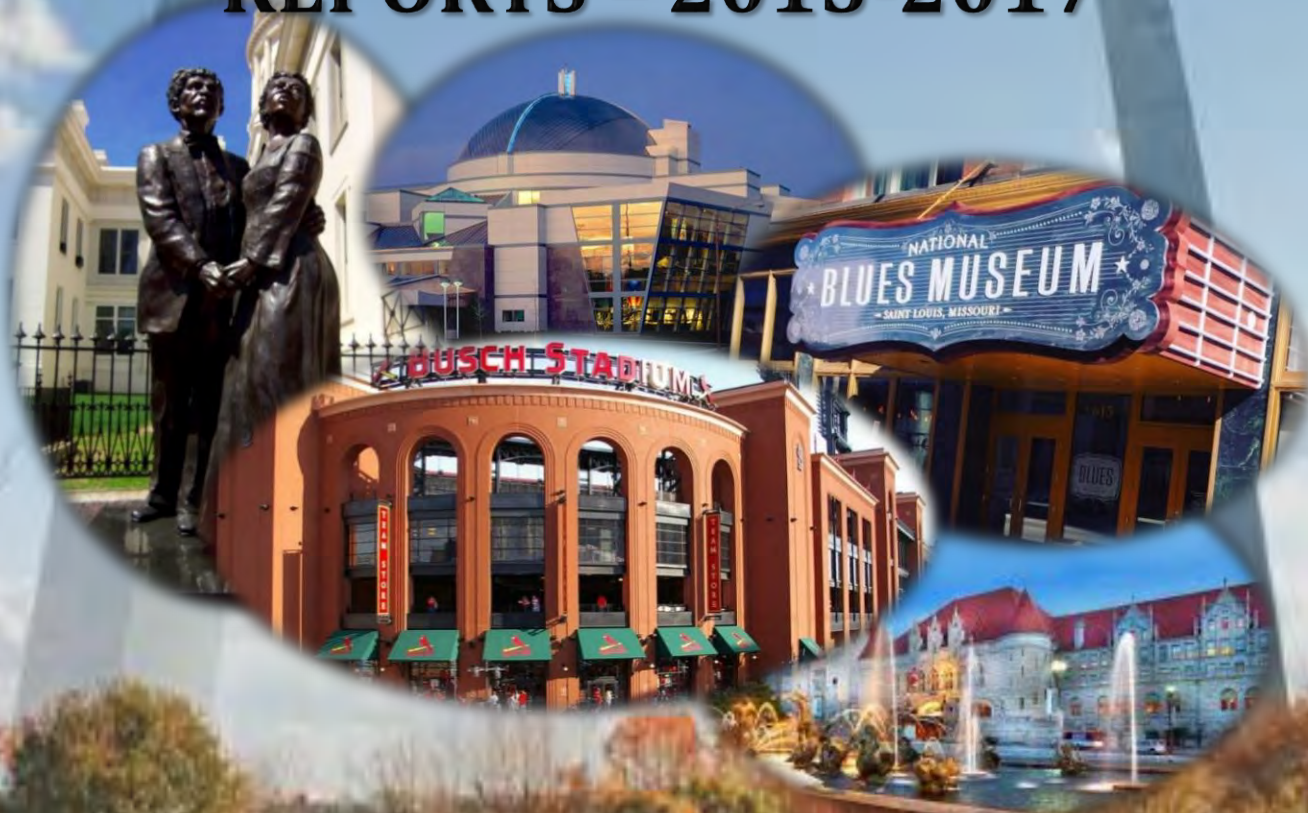
Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.



SYN-LOD 2017

**Lady Drema Lee Woldman
National President**

**SYN-LOD OFFICER AND COMMITTEE
REPORTS – 2015-2017**



TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT
LADY DREMA LEE WOLDMAN



Greetings,

In these next pages, you will get a birdseye view of all of the work that has been put in by your National Officers, National Committee Chairmen and you as members of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. as we Invest in **V**olunteerism, **A**dvocacy, **L**eadership, **U**nity, **E**ngagement and **S**ocial Responsibility (**V.A.L.U.E.S.**) to uplift our neighborhoods.

Please peruse these reports and take pride in all that TLOD has accomplished and how far we have come over 53 years. Our reach, our brand, our importance in the not-for-profit sector, is all because of the vision of our Founders, our past national presidents who have kept us on the track to progress and success, and to each one of **YOU**. We would not be where we are today without the foot soldiers in the trenches providing the service that is so important and needed in the communities in which we live. I thank our Founders and past leaders for allowing me to stand on their shoulders as I, hopefully, continue to move TLOD forward, and I thank each of you for your commitment, love for TLOD and desire to be of service as you take this journey with me.

Be blessed and continue to be a blessing to others as we Invest in V.A.L.U.E.S. that Support, Enhance, and Sustain.

I am excited and looking forward to meeting you in St. Louis.

I am at your service,

Lady Drema



TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

NATIONAL OFFICERS



Lady Drema Lee Woldman
National President



Lady Sharon J. Beard
National 1st Vice President



Lady Oteal Wyatt Gilmore
National 2nd Vice President



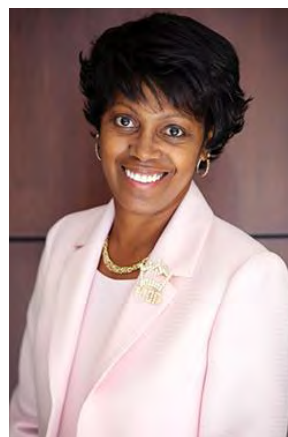
Lady Cheryl G. Williams
National Recording Secretary



Lady Elaine R. Singh
National Corresponding Secretary



Lady Sandra Clark
National Sergeant-at-Arms



Lady E. Rose Coker
National Assistant Financial Secretary



Lady Vynessa Alexander
National Treasurer



Lady Janice Scimmons
National TTA Director



Lady Mattie Stanton
National Historian



Lady Loris Anderson
National Editor of the Crown



Lady Pamela B. Porch
National Chaplain



Lady Adrienne E. Davis
National Parliamentarian



Lady Sandra Jennings
National Financial Secretary



Lady Jacqueline Wilcher
National Director of Operations



Lady Harnell Price Williams
National Area I Director



Lady Helena Dodson
National Area II Director



Lady Mary Leach Davis
National Area III Director



Lady Crystal Pittman
National Area IV Director



Lady Sybil McDowell
National Area V Director



Lady Brenda Dodd
National Area VI Director





Parliamen-Top 2017

September 29 – October 1, 2017

Sheraton Atlanta
Atlanta, Georgia

Registration Opens July 15

Hotel reservations can be made now on website



OFFICERS REPORTS

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

National Programmatic Thrusts Report
2015 – 2017

National Theme: Investing in V.A.L.U.E.S that Enhance, Support and Sustain
Lady Sharon J. Beard, National First Vice President/Program Chair

TLOD Mission: “We continuously strive to enhance and enrich the lives of youth and adults through community based programs and projects. We measure our success by the improved quality of life experienced by the people we serve”. It has been an honor as well as a privilege to serve Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. in the capacity of National First Vice President/Program Chair. With a sense of mission, we are challenged to live the vision and chart the direction of our organization, as we move forward, “Serving Youth and Adults”.

A Total of 76 Chapters completed the Chapter Report Book

34 Chapters submitted 5 STAR Programs

Volunteer service hours recorded for Five Programmatic Thrusts Approximately 1,076,907

Advocacy and accountability: It was our duty to assess our progress of the National Programs in our organizational paradigm shift and move our programs forward with vision and unprecedented accomplishments to increase the participation level of Five Star Programs, to focus on programs that would improve the quality of life for people in our communities, and to re-focus our efforts on renewed interest of the National Programs to increase members active participation and involvement. We enriched the lives of our senior citizens. We beautified the community. We supported Top Teens of America through the M.O.M.E.N.T.U.M Mantras. We enhanced the Status of Women. We engaged outside agencies to strengthen relationships and we formed even more Community Partnerships.

Leadership development and succession planning: Chapter, Area and National Officers are meeting and collaborating on a regular basis to plan and implement the programs. Many chapters are meeting during the Chapter Retreat to plan for the entire year. The Top Teens are being included in the planning and implementation process, as well as, sharing their ideas.

Unity and Collaboration: We maximized collaboration in working with the National Programs to create a culture of achievement in our communities. We continued our use of the S.M.A.R.T metrics techniques as a sound approach to effective programming. The chapters increased reporting to 95%. We identified processes to improve and support the reporting of the programs while raising the level of expectations of the involvement of working committees.

Engagement and Empowerment: We have empowered the members to lead with confidence. The members have developed a heightened sense of unity, pride and continued service in the implementation of local programs and projects. Our goal is to continue to encourage total programming of the Top Teens and Top Ladies while blending the national programmatic thrusts.

Social Responsibility and sisterly concern: The programs are relative and meeting the needs in the community. We have supported team oriented programs of the organization and collaborated with the local leadership, National Top Teens Director, National 2nd Vice President, and National Programmatic Thrusts and the National Project Chairs. We certainly fill the need for employment, companionship, fellowship, family, education and advocacy.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Second Vice President
Lady Oteal Wyatt Gilmore

Goals of the National Projects Committee: To develop projects within the purposes of the organization using resources within that membership and propose Projects, with implementation strategies.

Reporting on the 2015-2017

“Investing in V.A.L.U.E.S. that Support, Enhance, and Sustain”

Volunteer service – The total number of hours expended by Ladies, Lords and Teens in the execution of the projects for the 2015 – 2017 years were **185,139.5 hours** with an average of **43+ chapters** reporting. The funds allocated/expanded & donated was **\$173,753.26**.

Advocacy and accountability – The project committees have reported that chapters did host/participated in a MLK Day activity; Top Teens participated in the ACT-So events (NAACP); UNCF Sunday and/or The Faith Initiative; attended HBCU college fairs (UNCF); in health fairs or health wellness events (NCNW); in Voter’s registration drives and registered their Chapter Top Teens who turned 18 years old by the general election (NAACP). Chapters volunteered either at a local Sickle Cell office or with the national office; advocate Top Teens to serve as Sickle Cell Youth Ambassadors (SCDA); Areas hosted Literacy Cafés and done W.A.R. (Write And Read) towards literacy.

Leadership development and succession planning – As the National 2nd Vice President, I have held monthly conference calls, send emails, have held one-on-one conversation with each chairmen, i.e. by phone or emails, assisted the chairmen where needed, accepted advice from the National Project/Awards Chairmen, and did follow-ups on any task pertaining to the focus of the projects. Plus, I have been in contact with the National Area Directors and the National Chairmen of the Presidents’ Council. The Projects and Awards Chairmen have held at least 2 or more monthly conference calls and/or emails with the Area Chairmen or with individual chapters’ projects/awards chairmen.

Unity and collaboration – The committees have been either collaborating, participating and/or attending workshops, conferences or conventions with the national organizations of NAACP, UNCF, SCDA, NCNW. TLOD Literacy has been working on putting together a book with original writings from Top Ladies, Top Teens and Lords.

Engagement and Empowerment – The total number of community members that participated in the projects collectively was **52,816**. The needs that were met through the projects’ activities, included education, health issues, economic issues, nutrition, mental and physical issues and materials, if any, were distributed.

Social responsibility and sisterly concern – There were some concerns:

- regarding the UNCF donations;
- questions were asked on what is the goal of NAACP;
- questions were asked regarding the Ruth Payne Smith’s Speaker Tournament;
- about reaching out to the National Area Directors to let them know about the TLOD charge to support the initiatives of the projects.

(These concerns and questions were shared with the Project/Awards Chairmen and they are addressed in their reports.)

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Recording Secretary

Greetings Ladies,

It is with Enthusiasm, Excitement, and Energy that I serve as your National Recording Secretary. Your National Recording Secretary is the glue that helps to hold this organization together. Thank you for giving me this AMAZING opportunity.

Activities of your National Recording Secretary:

- I recorded an accurate account of the proceedings of Parliamen-Top 2015 and 2016.
- The minutes were emailed to Parliamen-Top members and posted on the TLOD website in a timely manner.
- I participated in two (2) conference calls with the TTA Recording Secretary, Teen Samaria Wilson, and Asst. Recording Secretary, Nia Dodd.
- I maintained a permanent file of all Parliamen – Top members and chapter presidents.
- I conversed with several chapter recording secretaries to ensure a fluid line of communication.
- I facilitated a workshop at the Area One Conference on the “Roles and Responsibilities of the Chapter Recording Secretary.”

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as we “Invest in V.A.L.U.E.S. that Support, Enhance and Sustain.”

Yours in Service,

Lady Cheryl Garner Williams

Lady Cheryl Garner Williams

National Recording Secretary

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Corresponding Secretary July 2016 – June 2017

The role of the National Corresponding Secretary is to receive, review and affirm all inductions processed by the National Financial Secretary.

After approval by the National Financial Secretary, the National Corresponding Secretary finalizes induction requests by processing membership certificates and badges and submits to the National Area Director.

For new charters, prior to the chartering ceremony and induction, the National Corresponding Secretary prepares announcements and the official charter certificate.

During the 2015/16 fiscal year, the following inductions and charters were processed:

Area I: 75

Area II: 58

Area III: 74

Area IV: 33 Includes 17 members inducted into the Tipton County Chapter, chartered January, 2016

Area V: 19

Area VI: 24

Total members inducted: 283

During the 2016/17 fiscal year, the following inductions and charters were processed:

Area I: 69

Area II: 70 Includes 21 members of the Patuxent River Chapter, chartered April 2017

Area III: 76

Area IV: 101 Includes 17 members inducted into the Effingham Chapter, chartered August 2016
and 50 members inducted into the Queen City chapter, chartered January 2017

Area V: 32

Area VI: 14

Total members inducted: 362

It has been an honor to serve on the National Board of Directors of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. To the National Area Directors, thank you for your support. To Lady Drema, thank you for the appointment and your confidence in my ability and commitment to serve.

Sisterly submitted,

Lady Elaine Singh

Lady Elaine Singh

National Corresponding Secretary

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Greetings: National President, Founder, all Top Ladies assembled

The office of national financial secretary is charged with receipting all funds given to the organization by category and transmitting said funds to the national treasurer. Additionally, she is responsible for recording and managing all membership matters for both ladies and teens.

The past two fiscal years have been challenging, educational and rewarding. I have had the opportunity to work closely with the membership at the chapter, area and national levels. I have prepared and presented reports at Parliamen-Top 2015 and 2016. I have also presented workshops at Parliamen-Top and at Area Conferences.

I am very grateful to the area financial secretaries for assisting me in obtaining membership data from the chapters throughout the year. Special thanks to Lady Sharon Penson, Area I Financial Secretary for her diligence and always being ready to help.

This year, with the help of the National Technology Chair Lady Natasha Goode, a new annual reporting process and ladies induction reporting process was established using our new membership management tool Club Express. I am pleased to say that the processes were received well and have been beneficial to both the national office and the membership in general. Moving forward we will be rolling out a new induction process for Top Teens at the beginning of the new fiscal year.

I am excited to say, again with the assistance of the technology team, that registration for Syn-Lod 2017 will have an electronic sign-in process. This should eliminate long check-in lines and we will be paper free.

It has been my pleasure to work with the finances and manage membership on the "Investing Team". Special thanks to Lady Rose Coker, National Assistant Financial secretary and Lady Vynessa Alexander, National Treasurer for working along with me on the finance team to get the job done! Thank you to Lady Drema for your leadership, your confidence and your support.

Respectfully submitted,

Lady Sandra E Jennings
National Financial Secretary

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Treasurer

Lady Vynessa Alexander

Reporting Period: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017

Personal Message: It has been my pleasure to serve as the National Treasurer. My focus during this 1st two years has been to manage the TLOD finances with Purpose, Precision and Progressiveness. To that end my goal has been to get the finances in a state where the processes are repeatable and managed with accounting software that is an industry standard. My focus as we move forward will be on rolling out new processes to local chapters and providing training and education on the financial process. This will allow for broader consistency in recordkeeping between National and the local chapters. My work motto continues to be: **"We are what we repeatedly do, Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit"**.

Objective of Office:

National Treasurer is responsible for managing all finances and related financial activity for the organization. The National Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of TLOD and responsible to ensure our finances are accurate and precise.

National Initiatives and Accomplishments:

1. **New Chart of Accounts:** From an accounting perspective there needs to be a national chart of accounts that is consistently used between the NFS and NT as well as the Area and Local chapters. For Fiscal 2015-2017 working with the auditor we have developed a national chart of accounts. This chart of accts will be rolled out to all financial officers at Ptop 2017.
2. **Accounting Software:** Migrate to a "cloud based" accounting system. Our national accounting records have been migrate to the industry standard "Quickbooks" online. This will allow the accounting process to transition from administration to administration easily. Our new chart of accounts has been incorporated into this software. The software is accessible via the internet by TLOD and our audit firm which has improved audit timing. **This has allowed for more detailed reporting of TLOD finances.**
3. **Accounting Practices:** Implemented a number of GAAP principles for handling finances particularly around inventory management and managing restricted donations were implemented. Inventory has been reduced by moving to providing jewelry ordering direct from the provider thereby only maintaining inventory for inductions. This reduces our reliance on inventory management and reduces level of member services work associated with jewelry sales. New accounts have been put in place to manage restricted donations. Banking package has been developed to assist new chapters with obtaining a bank account post chartering.
4. **Accounting Software:** Migrate to a "cloud based" accounting system. Our national accounting records have been migrate to the industry standard "Quickbooks" online. This will allow the accounting process to transition from administration to administration easily. Our new chart of accounts has been incorporated into this software. The software is accessible via the internet by TLOD and our audit firm which has improved audit timing. **This has allowed for more detailed reporting of TLOD finances.**
5. **Insurance:** Worked with Insurance broker to define insurance coverage and ensure coverage is appropriate for activities. Insurance has been updated to account for program changes and to ensure broader coverage for working with youth.
6. **Banking:** Reviewed banking accts and relationship with Wells Fargo Bank. All account re-setup and coded to support Not for Profit status, resulting in a 10% reduction in fees. Set up new investment relationship with WFB Advisors and have invested Capital Campaign funds in mutual fund (60% equity 40% fixed)
7. **Communication and Training:** Financial training has been conducted at the both PTOs. Sample formats have been provided for budgeting, reporting and tracking local membership. Post PTO 2017, regular webinars will be conducted on topical areas to accommodate those who have not attended PTO training.
8. **General Activities:** 990 and Audit for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 have been completed and filed.

Moving Forward:

1. Create a financial SOP in order to standardize Area and Chapter accounting practices
2. Publish electronic payment policy to support new payment methods available to chapters and individuals

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Top Teens of America Director

The National Top Teens of America Director;

- Shall have supervision over and promote growth and development to the Top Teens
- Shall make an annual report of the activities of the Top Teens Chapters
- Shall conduct leadership training workshops for the Top Teens as approved by Parliamen-Top
- Assist in the planning of Top Teens activities at Syn-Lod
- Supply local Chapters with materials pertinent to the Top Teens Program
- Responsible for presenting training workshops for Area Advisors, Chapter TTA Advisors and others interested members of Top Ladies
- Shall chair the National Service to Youth Committee, comprised of the six Areas of Top Teens Advisors

Accomplishments:

- Conducted a workshop on “Duties and Responsibilities of the TTA Advisors” at Parliamen-Top 2015 during the TTA Advisors Institute
- Attended the 2016 Area Leadership Conferences for Areas Six, One and Two and presented a workshop on “Duties and Responsibilities of the TTA Advisors
- Attended the 2017 Area Leadership Conferences for Areas Six, One, Three and Four and presented a workshop of “Duties and Responsibilities of the TTA Advisors.
- Reported at Parliamen-Top 2015 and at Parliamen-Top 2016 on the programs and projects that the Top Teens had participated in
- Processed paperwork for approximately 950 TTA Inductions for fiscal year 2016-2017
- Processed paperwork for approximately 900 TTA Inductions for fiscal year 2015-2016
- Served on the Vivien Coe Richard Top Teens Leadership Academy planning committee; Theme for academy was “Discovering the Power of STEAM”; assisted with chaperoning 30 Top Teens
- Processed TTA transfer documents that were received
- Processed approximately 200 TTA membership requests
- Conducted conference calls with Area TTA Advisors, Chapter TTA Advisors and National TTA Officers and Committee Chairs
- Visited St. Jude Hospital in Memphis, TN to help set up new initiative
- Attended the 1st Annual St. Jude Walk on May 21, 2016 with SW Cluster chapters
- Worked with Lady Pauline Hunter, National Beautification Chair, to get Teen Cyan Simmons, appointed to the National Youth Advisory Council of Keep America Beautiful
- Worked with NIH to set up “Bullying-Be More than A Bystander Initiative”

Lady Janice M. Scimmons
National TTA Director

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT TTA DIRECTOR

Greetings Lady Drema L. Woldman-National President, Lady Ozell Dean-Founder, National Officers, Top Ladies, Top Teens and Lords:

With Enthusiasm, Excitement, and Energy it is my pleasure to serve as National Assistant Top Teens Director. Top Teens motto is "Participation Is Our Foundation as Leaders of Tomorrow." As a former Teen it is my desire to carry that motto out as a Top Lady and to further promote its ideals.

During the past two years under the guidance of Lady Janice Scimmons National Top Teens Director I have been able to execute the following programs and projects:

- **Dred Scott Penny Drive.** The Dred Scott penny drive was a national initiative to raise money towards paying off the balance of the construction of the Dred Scott Statue in St. Louis Missouri. The Teens were able to raise approximately \$13,000.00 as their contribution towards this effort.
- **Spelling Bee.** Fall 2016 the Spelling Bee was created and launched. Teens were able to compete on the local and Area levels by studying the word list derived from the Standardize Achievement Test (SAT). Chapters as well as the Areas organized the competition with judges from the community as well as within their chapters to assist with ensuring that the Spelling Competition was executed properly. The Teens were awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes to include certificates and trophies. The Area Winners will compete at the National level during Syn-Lod. Certificates, Medallions and Cash Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.
- **Debate Team.** Coming this fall... **"THE DEBATE TEAM"**. In an effort to assist the Teens with being profound and proficient public speakers the Debate Team is being formed to assist them with vocabulary building, improving and increasing their research skills and techniques, as well as examine the pros and cons of various topics by deliberating with their peers.
- **TTA Newsletter.** "The Voice" Communication, Communication, Communication!!! The Voice is your voice to the world. Informing the TLOD/TTA world of current and upcoming news and views about an illustrious group of young people...Top Teens of America. TTA Newsletter first publication was released this month to include Area Conferences, Chapter events, Former Top Teens and their accomplishments as well as 2017 graduating seniors. Prepare now for the next issue coming this fall and be a part of something special.
- **TTA Advisor's Training.** Served as a trainer for Chapter TTA advisors at Parliamen-Top and Area one, two, three, four and five Leadership Conferences. The training was well received among the TTA advisors. The advisors indicated a better and broader understanding of the MOMENTUM and other objectives of the TTA program.
- **March of Dimes and St. Jude.** Communicated with Lady Jacqueline Carter MOD Chairperson and Lady Mavis Merritt St. Jude Chairperson regarding the mechanics for the execution of both National initiatives. Both Ladies are to be commended for their successful implementation and accomplishments.

In general I was available for questions and concerns of TTA advisors whenever needed. I am grateful for this opportunity to serve with Lady Scimmons in providing service for TTA advisors and Top Teens among the 113 Chapter Nation Wide. This has been a loving, inspiring, joyful and yes a learning experience which I will always cherish.

Respectfully Submitted
Lady Velda A. Hunter

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Historian

Greetings Ladies:

The National Historian continues collecting and documenting TLOD historical data from our Founders, Past National Presidents, Area Directors, Area Historians, Chapter Presidents and members. The purpose of this data collection is to put the TLOD History on Wikipedia, to have another vehicle for gaining more exposure in the community for our organization. In this regard, we have completed the following:

1. Created and emailed a "Historical Data Form" to all Past National Presidents to describe the most important events during their administration and to document the legacy by which they most want to be remembered. This form was sent to all living Past National Presidents and a copy of the form to the chapter president of our deceased Past National Presidents. We thank the 6th National President, Lady Jacquelyn Heath Parker, and the 12th National President, Lady Audrie Lawton, for completing and returning their forms.
2. Contacted Founder Major Ozell Dean to solicit background information on her military and ministerial service, as well as her concept of the "TLOD Story". Lady Dean mailed to the National Historian a copy of a page from an early edition of the Crown and referred me to an article "Looking Back In Time" published in the TLOD history book.
3. Contacted all Area Directors, via email and personally at Parliamen-Top, for an updated copy of their Area History and the contact information (name and email address) for their Area Historians. I received this information for all Area Historians: Area I Historian-Lady Lueburda J. Myers; Area II Historian-Lady Joy Holland; Area III Historian-Lady Melodie Coleman; Area IV Historian-Lady Vivian Thompson; Area V Historian-Lady Mary J Grant and Area VI Historian-Lady Hazel Dukes. The Area Directors and Area Historians were asked to attend a conference call on collecting, documenting and updating the Area History. Area Directors were asked to send an updated copy of the Area History to the National Historian. We thank the Area II, Area III and Area VI Directors for responding with their updated Area History. We also thank Lady Katie Wright and the late Lady Ina Boon, both past National Officers from Area III, for contributing important historical documentation.
4. The TLOD historical data is not complete as our history is in the making every day. However, we have compiled the information received and prepared an initial TLOD Wikipedia page with documentation. This data has been sent to Lady Drema Woldman, National President, for her approval. As soon as she has had an opportunity to review and approve the information for publication, Lady Natasha Goode, National IT Coordinator, will assist with the posting of it on Wikipedia.

Lady Mattie Stanton
National Historian

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE EDITOR OF THE CROWN

To the National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman, Founder, National Officers, Past National Presidents, and all Top Ladies and Top Teens:

As the National Editor of the Crown, it is indeed an honor to serve. This has been a learning experience as well as a humbling experience. As with most new experiences, learning takes place. Support and encouragement from the National President and members brings overwhelming joy.

Under the leadership of National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman, Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated purchased Flip Book, a digital software for production of the first digital Crown in 2015.

Call for articles for the Crown was given at Syn-Lod 2015. Chapters and Areas responded and the production of the first digital Crown was produced in fall 2015.

Call for articles for the Crown was given at Parliamen –Top 2016. Chapters and Areas, as of this writing responded.

The 2015-2017 Crown will be available on the TLOD website by September 1, 2017.

The Crown is now a digital publication with limited printed copies!

Keep in mind that digital publication of the Crown is eco-friendly, interactive, user accessible and can be viewed whenever it is accessed. Our community partners can view as well.

Lady Loris B. Anderson

National Editor of the Crown

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Chaplain

Greetings of Peace and Joy!

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him." Proverbs 30:5

Since our last meeting, we have been engaged and invested in providing spiritual support for Top Ladies of Distinction. As your National Chaplain, we have provided countless hours of prayer and spiritual support as we individually and collectively have gone through the best and worst times of our lives. It is our continued trust in our creator that continues to move us forward in grace.

It is the concern and comfort we provide to one another that means the most, in helping us to endure and thrive, in the life journey. While the role of the Chaplain, is to provide a spiritual component and support for the membership, it is the investment of one another that sustains.

Our Charge:

- To set a tone of reverence for our meetings, conferences, with meditations and prayer.
- To support local Area and Chapter Chaplains
- To Create a prayer line for all TLOD members, Top Teens and those who call in need with encouragement, support, and prayer.
- To collaborate and provide spiritual support for events.

Prayer Line: The prayer line has been up and running successfully and available to all that feel the need for prayer and support. It is posted each week as a reminder to callers. Every Monday we have devoted this time for prayer. We thank those who have given their support consistently, you have brought enrichment and words of care to callers.

We have established a TLOD prayer line for our members. Come Join Us!

Every Monday 6:30 P.M- 7:15 P.M (CST)

45 Minutes of Prayer, Praise, and Power

Dial In Number: 1(605) 739-1030

Access Code: 331-700-770

Prayer Changes Things

Workshop Presentations:

Presented workshop support: **Principles of Successful Leadership in Top Ladies of Distinction**

Help me Make It Through the Night

2017 SYN-LOD Memorial

It is our responsibility to collect information from chapters regarding those Ladies, Lords and Top Teens who made their transition from Earth to Eternity. We prepared a slide presentation of those submitted by chapter Presidents by the June 1, 2017 deadline for inclusion at the 2017 SYN-LOD in St. Louis, Missouri

My thanks to Lady Drema Lee Woldman for her continued leadership, vision, and support. It has been my distinct honor and pleasure to serve as your National Chaplain and serve as part of the I.N.V.E.S.T team as we continue to enrich and sustain through service in Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated.

Spiritually Supporting,



Lady (Rev.) Pamela Bates Porch

National Chaplain-Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

Report of the National Sergeant-at-Arms

Personal Statement: Greetings to our esteemed Founder, National President Lady Drema Lee Woldman, National Officers, Top Ladies, Top Teens and Lords. It has truly been an honor and privilege to humbly serve as your National Sergeant-at-Arms for the past two years. I am grateful to our National President for giving me the opportunity to serve all members of TLOD.

Objectives of Office: The position of the National Sergeant-at-Arms is responsible the preparation of the meeting rooms, observation of the room to ensure that order is maintained during the plenary sessions, serving as the chairman of the assigned Pages and remaining on duty throughout Syn-Lod and other National meetings leaving TLOD members free to concentrate on the business at hand. At meetings, TLOD members are greeted and properly seated. This position also has the responsibility of collecting ballots, tallying votes, and ensuring meetings begin and end on time. In addition, the Sergeant-at-Arms carries out any requests made by our National President to ensure she is free to conduct the business of TLOD.

Goals Met/Accomplishments:

- ❖ Served as doorkeeper at Parliamen-Tops 2015 and 2016 and for the upcoming Syn-Lod 2017 by keeping track of times allocated for officer/committee reporting ensuring plenary sessions started and ended on time.
- ❖ Ensured National President, Lady Drema L. Woldman and other National Officers requests were greeted and assisted them in their formal presentations by disseminating handouts or reports.
- ❖ To cut down on movement and distractions during plenary National Officers and National Committee Chairman, reports and handouts were assembled and in folders prior to the plenary sessions saving time by minimizing distribution of paper.
- ❖ Prepared TLOD officers, committee chairman and chapter nameplates, voting cards, and motion slips.
- ❖ Prepared TTA officers, committee chairman and chapter nameplates, voting cards, and motion slips.
- ❖ Assisted Protocol with the setup of meeting space to include Executive Committee Meetings. After preparing the meeting venue, greeted all arrivals and ensured members were provided with adequate provisions, such as paperwork, water, etc. and ensured all were accommodated. At the conclusion, I ensured the meeting space was cleared of all TLOD literature.
- ❖ Guarded the meeting room doors and ensured speakers were not interrupted by latecomers.
- ❖ Collected evaluations as provided by Top Ladies.

Target Goals for the Future: Ensure a smooth transition to the next blessed Top Lady who will serve as the National Sergeant-at-Arms. She will be given files, information, card stock, tent cards, ballot cards and much more to set her up for success as the next TLOD "Doorkeeper".





Yours in Service,

Lady Sandra R. Clark
National Sergeant-at-Arms














TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
LADY JACKIE WILCHER

Duties and Responsibilities of the Office:

-  The National Director of Operations shall conduct internal evaluations of chapters as prescribed and report same to Syn-Lod and Parliamen-Top.
-  Shall, at the request of the National President, conduct external evaluations outside of the prescribed schedule and submit a written report of the same to the requestor.
-  Shall, at the request of the National President and Syn-Lod, provide a written analytical report of internal evaluations received from each chapter.
-  Will disseminate Recommendations and Constitutional Recommendations within fifteen (15) days of receipt from National Area Directors to the appropriate national committee chairman.

Accomplishments:

-  Ensured National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman, and other National Officers requests were met.
-  Collected and disseminated SOP recommendations and Constitutional Bylaws recommendations to the TLOD Executive Committee ensuring that correct forms were used to submit request for changes.
-  Collected, analyzed, and reported feedback from Parliamen-Top and Syn-Lod conference evaluations.
-  Teamed with the National Sergeant-at-Arms, National Protocol Chair and Co-Chair, and National Logistics Chair to ensure Parliamen-Tops 2015 and 2016 ran smoothly with positive feedback received.
-  Developed briefing and held a webinar titled “The Making of a Successful Conference” with Area Sergeant-at-Arms, Protocol Chairs, and Logistics chairs to facilitate a discussion on understanding roles and responsibilities at conferences. All six TLOD Areas had representation on the webinar. Special thanks to Lady Sandra, Lady Hope, Lady DiAnn, and Lady Tangie for serving as panelist. In addition, thanks to the TLOD Media Team (Lady Natasha and Lady Crystal) for your assistance in the webinar.
-  Coordinated travel and hotel logistics for Parliamen-Tops 2015, 2016 and Syn-Lod 2017 for members of Parliamen-Top and special guests for more than 50 people.
-  Upon the sudden passing of the TLOD travel agent, researched and recommended a travel agency to the National President. Ticket to Ride Travel Service was selected after comparison of 3 different agencies.
-  Worked with hotel points-of-contact at the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel (Parliamen-Top 2015); Wyndam Glenview Suites Hotel (Parliamen-Top 2016) and St. Louis Union Station Hotel (Syn-Lod 2017) to ensure that Parliamen Top members as well as special guests had room assignments to include coordination with the TLOD National Treasurer to ensure billing of hotel room expenses were accurate.
-  As requested by the National President, created the “Partnering with the Community” Keepsake Program that was provided to attendees at Parliamen-Top 2016 to introduce TLOD’s current National Partners and some of the issues that we are currently advocating.
-  Conducted workshop at Syn-Lod 2017 on “Maintaining Order: Navigating through Basis Parliamentary Procedures” for the Chapter Presidents Institute and Area Directors Institute.
-  On behalf of the National President, represented TLOD at a reception honoring Stacey D. Stewart, new President of March of Dimes and the first woman of color and 2nd female selected as President since the March of Dimes was founded in 1938. Also attended the Black Women’s Agenda in September 2015 and September 2016 and the Phoenix Awards Dinner sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus where President Barack Obama was the speaker.
-  Other many duties as requested by the National President, National Officers, and all Top Ladies, Top Teens, and the Lords.
-  Always at your Service!

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL AREA I DIRECTOR LADY HARNELL WILLIAMS

It has been the honor of National Area One Director, Lady Harnell Williams, to serve Area One of Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated for the program years of 2015-16 and 2016-17. The thirty-four chapters in Area One are organized in four clusters which are: Northeast, Southeast, Southwest and West, and in the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas.

The loss of Founder and Second Past National President, Lady LaVerne Reese Madlock, Seventh National Area One Director Lady Orvis Austin and Composer of the music and words of the TLOD Prayer, Lady Rita D. Franks-Bell along with other deceased Ladies, Lords and Teens was deeply felt in Area One and throughout TLOD. We pay homage to the memories of these community servants.

- Area One is proud to be the home of eight Past National Presidents and thirteen Past National Area One Directors.
- The number of financial Ladies during 2015-16 was 876 which increased to 915 during 2016-17.
- The number of financial Teens during 2015-16 was 1,090 compared to 1,156 in 2016-17.
- The National Top Lady of the Year for 2015-17, Lady Johnnie Gales, Dallas Chapter, resides in Area One.
- Five National Officers of Top Teens of America hail from Area One.
- One hundred thirty-three Ladies were inducted into TLOD during 2015-2017 in Area One.
- Thirty-seven Ladies were reactivated during 2015-17.
- 1,050 Backpacks were donated to the Bethlehem Community Center in Fort Worth, Texas at the 45th Area One Leadership Conference through the Blessings in a Backpack Project.
- 1,156 Backpacks were donated through the Blessings in a Backpack Project at the 46th Area One Leadership Conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- National Community Partnerships Chair, Lady Joyce Jacquet, obtained a \$500 donation for the 2017 Blessings in a Backpack Project at Syn-Lod, with assistance from Lady Minnie Thomas, Area Community Partnerships Chair and Humble Intercontinental Chapter's Community Partnerships Chair, Lady Charlene Johnson.
- \$2,500 in scholarships were awarded at the 45th Area One Leadership Conference with \$3,250 in scholarships set to be awarded from the 46th Area One Leadership Conference, once verification of enrollment has been confirmed.
- Teen Kira Willis, Dallas Chapter, was the 1st Winner of the Spelling Bee, with Teen Andreas Palmer of New Orleans being the runner up. Each received a monetary award for their efforts.
- \$600 was awarded to Teens in the Performing Arts for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places during the Literary Café at both the 45th and 46th Area One Leadership Conferences.
- The 2017 46th Area One Humanitarian Award was given to Former Teen Attorney Erika Green, who was elected as the Councilwoman who serves as Metropolitan Councilmember representing District 5 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- TLOD's 1st HBCU Gala, at which eight outstanding members of the City of Houston were honored, was orchestrated by 11th National President, Lady Jackie Pope.
- Teens from all over TLOD participated in the Lady Vivien Coe Richard's Leadership Academy at NASA, where Area One President, Teen Josef Sorrells, was spotlighted on NBC news in Houston, Texas, as he discussed the experience he and the other Teens shared during the Leadership Academy.
- Each TLOD chapter that sponsored the A-TEAM enjoyed the graduation of the members, under the leadership of Twelfth National President, Lady Audrie L. Lawton.
- The success of the UNCF Initiative in which an increase in giving was coordinated by Lady Veronica Nesbitt.

Each TLOD and TTA chapter in Area One worked diligently to implement activities in their respective cities related to the programs and projects of TLOD. ***It Takes Everyone to Make Area One #1!***

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL AREA II DIRECTOR
LADY HELENA DODSON












- Area II successfully hosted the 2015 Syn Lod in Washington, DC with Dale City-Prince William County Chapter serving as host.
- Area II became a charter member of the new National Museum of African American History and Culture.
- Area II was presented with its Silver Life Membership to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) during the 2017 Leadership Conference.
- Area II financial portfolio is overall very good. The historical bank account net asset for the past two years averages \$15,000 each year and we have not exceeded our budget with Area Conferences netting a gain. Area II also made history in April 2017 with 252 people attending the Area II Conference (the highest number of total conference attendees in Area II history!) In the past two years, Area II awarded 6 Top Teen scholarships totaling \$6,000. Raised \$3,025 in fundraiser donations from Area II Chapters. Donated \$1,920 to our Founder as an appreciation for all she has done for our organization. Area II also has increased its Franchell E. Boswell Education Foundation membership by 86% from 29 members in the 2015-2016 year to 54 members in the 2016-2017 year.
- Since 2015 Area II has inducted 172 Ladies and 131 Top Teens. Twenty-one Ladies were chartered into the Patuxent River Chapter-Laurel, Maryland April 2017. Retention rate average 84% for Ladies and 73% for Top Teens.
- Conducted a two-year trial to redesign hosting of area conferences. The eleven chapters actively took major roles in every aspect of the conference. The conference budget was adhered to, no chapter paid for conference functions.
- During each area conference, the agenda was designed to effectively address National's agenda and focus. Workshops were conducted addressing St. Jude's, March of Dimes, AARP, Clinical Trials, Caregiving, Sickie Cell, NAACP, HBCU/UNCF, and Keep America Beautiful.
- Instituted a "Thunder Clap" on Facebook as a health initiative addressing "Sickie Cell". More than 100 Ladies, chapters, and others participated. Thunder Clap reached more than 61,000 people.
- Held conference calls and area meetings with Area II executive board, chapter Presidents, and area committee chairs.
- Participated on the following National and Area conference calls: TTA, Senior Citizens, Community Beautification, Community Partnership, UNCF, Sickie Cell, NAACP, National President's and Area Directors.
- Worked with financial committee to obtain an Area II American Express card. This has allowed us to use points to acquire gift cards as prizes for Top Teens and contributions.
- Served as chair of the Area Director's Council.
- In 2016, Area II received a donation of a partial of historic land in Trenton, NJ from the family of the Late Lady Marie T. Campbell (Area II's first Director).
- Summer 2016 an Area II Literacy contest was held. Teens were asked to write an essay focused on the National's agenda. The essay was titled "What I expect from a candidate running for office. Several teens read their essays during the 2017 opening area leadership conference. All participants were recognized during the conference with gifts.
- Area II recommended the two honorary members inducted during our 2015 Syn Lod: Lady Julianne Malveaux, 15th President Bennett College for Women and Lady Yolanda Moore, head basketball coach at Southeastern Louisiana University and 2 time WNBA Champion; inducted into Ole Miss Hall of Fame. Also, recommended honorary membership for Dr. Pernessa C. Seele, CEO and Founder of Balm in Gilead, Inc. Dr. Seele to be inducted Syn Lod 2017.
- Has generated conversations with interested prospective ladies in Petersburg/Richmond, VA and Haymarket, VA.
- My Sincere Thank You – Because of the dedication and support of the area officers, area chairs, chapter presidents, chapter members, Top Teens, and Lords, Area II has been able to proudly identify ourselves as "Awesome Area II".

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL AREA III DIRECTOR LADY MARY LEACH DAVIS

To Lady Drema Lee Woldman, National President, Lady Ozell Dean, Founder, all officers, past and present, Ladies, Teens and Lords, Good Day. It has been a pleasure serving TLOD as Area III Director for the past two years. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve.

As Area Director, I have completed the following in my role as leader of the Area and liaison to National to executed the goals and objectives of Top Ladies of Distinction.

-  Met with newly elected officers and appointees, August 2016.
-  Attended Area Directors' Training, August 2016.
-  Attended 10th Anniversary of Midway Chicago Chapter, August 2016.
-  Chartered new chapter, Will County Black Diamond, September 2016.
-  Attended Parliamen-top: Area III South Cluster host in St. Louis 2016; Area III North Cluster host in Glenview, IL 2017.
-  Held successful Founders' Day program. Skyline Metropolitan Chapter host.
-  Held successful Cluster Meetings (North and South) 2016 - Record breaking numbers.
-  Planning meeting with Midway Chicago Chapter for 40th Area Conference.
-  Inducted
 - o Held 6 inductions, 2016: Will County Black Diamond, Chicago, Confluence, Midway Chicago, Evergreen Park, North Shore. South Suburban. Skyline Metro, St Louis, West Suburban Chicago, Ebony Chapters
 - o 7 inductions, 2017: Midway, Ebony, Cardinal, Lincoln Park Chicago, Chicago, Evergreen Park, Milwaukee, Will County, Confluence, North Shore, Skyline, West Suburban Chicago, South Suburban Chicago Chapters
-  As a result, of Membership Challenge, Area III membership has increased to 424 members, most ever.
-  Attended Area Directors' meeting, Chicago, IL, January 2017.
-  Attended the Dred Scott Dinner – TLOD teens donated \$10,000 plus.
-  Initiated the first on line registration for clusters, prelude to Area Conference Online Registration.
-  Increased technology– Area III Facebook page, On line souvenir journals and video conference calls.
-  Attended the introductory reception for our National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman.
-  Attended Chapters' Signature Awards' and Scholarship Programs.
-  Held successful and financially sound Area Conferences, 40th Anniversary Leadership Conference, Skokie, IL 2016, Midway Chicago Chapter host and 41st Leadership Conference, Schaumburg, IL 2017, Evergreen Park Chicago Chapter host.
-  Attended 2016 Area V Leadership Conference, Cleveland, OH.
-  Attended 2017 Area VI Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
-  Attended 2017 Area VI Conference, Louisville, KY.
-  Planning and preparation as Area host for Syn-Lod 2017 St Louis, MO.
-  Secured hotel for 2018 Conference, Oakbrook, IL, Chicago Chapter, host.
-  Attended Chapter Activities, Health Fair, Walks (St Jude and MOD).
-  Awards program – South Suburban Chicago Chapter.
-  Conference host chapter, Chicago, planning meeting.
-  Piloted new concept of cluster sponsored ATEAAM – 1st graduating class, July 8, 2017.
-  Produced Area Newsletter, sent articles to the Crown, Scepter and Voice as well as new addition, Health and Wellness Newsletter, The Heartbeat.
-  Mediation of chapter issues. Attended various chapters' monthly meetings.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL AREA IV DIRECTOR
LADY CRYSTAL PITTMAN

THANK YOU FOR AREA IV's SUCCESS!

Area IV Excited, Enthusiastic and full of Energy as we continue to strive to keep our presence relevant in the various communities in which we live and serve. In 2015 we accepted the call to invest in V.A.L.U.E.S. that support, enhance and sustain. Area IV's two year theme was "Unifying TLOD & TTA Legacy Builders One Brick at a Time" in which we are doing successfully. We have excelled in the challenge by dutifully carrying out the programs, projects and new initiatives of TLOD. We are focused on reclaiming, Retaining and definitely Recruiting TLOD and TTA members by astoundingly, adding 500 to our TLOD family since 2015. Area IV is the fastest growing area with enthusiastic ladies ready to serve.

Area IV in 2015-2016:

- ❖ Chartered and welcomed two chapters: Tipton County and Effingham County
- ❖ Twenty-one Active TLOD and TTA Chapters
- ❖ Four hundred ninety-three Financial TLOD Members; Five hundred ninety-eight Financial TTA Members; Inducted thirty-four Ladies
- ❖ Reactivated four Ladies
- ❖ Three Affiliate Members
- ❖ 34th Conference was held in Raleigh, NC hosted by the Durham Chapter with over 400 TLOD/TTA/Lords attending. A purpose driven conference with highlighted workshops and guests speakers such as (The Balm in Gilead, Inc.-Dr. Pernessa Seele, NCCU Clinical Lab Faculty, Boston Heart, Financial Advisors, Piedmont Health Services, Youth Speaker on Sickle Cell, special guest performers Teen Cameron and former TTA National President LeZaire Reese.
 - ✓ Area IV TTA Service Projects contributed over 300 bags to Back Pack Buddies Inter-Faith Food Shuttle - Area IV TTA Service Projects contributed over 300 toiletries to CAARE in honor of the Late Lady Sharon Elliott Bynum who was the Executive Director of Healing with CAARE, Inc.
 - ✓ Various Programs and Project Workshops, College Fair and Tours (Media outlets)

Area IV in 2016-2017:

- ❖ Chartered and welcomed the Queen City Chapter; 50 new Ladies in honor of Area IV's 50th Anniversary
- ❖ Twenty-three Active TLOD and TTA Chapters; Five hundred seventy Financial TLOD Members; Six hundred fifty-two Financial TTA Members
- ❖ Inducted one hundred Ladies
- ❖ Reactivated ten Ladies
- ❖ Four Affiliate Members
- ❖ Celebrating 50 Years of Service in Area IV. 35th Conference was held in Atlanta, GA hosted by the Atlanta Peachtree Chapter with over 400 TLOD/TTA/Lords attending
 - ✓ First ever CPR Certification Training for Top Teens at an Area Conference
 - ✓ Historical UNCF/HBCU & College Fair held at National Center for Civil and Human Rights Museum/ MLK King Center and Birth Home Tour
 - ✓ First ever to have its own Area Initiative "Elon Homes & Schools for Children" will be spear headed by Queen City Chapter- Lady Rachelle R. Latimer, Area IV Initiative Chair (ongoing Drive for \$500.00 will sponsor two bedroom sets)
 - ✓ Area IV TTA Service Projects contributed over 500 bags to Holy Trinity Blessings in a Back Pack
 - ✓ Area IV TTA Service Projects contributed over 300 toiletries and towels to Hosea Feed the Hungry & Homeless
 - ✓ Renown guests Presenters, Speakers and Entertainers, and Recording Artists (President Drema L. Woldman, Past Presidents Lady Peggy LeCompte and Lady Jackie Pope, Shaneesa N. Ashford, Zeta Phi Beta Georgia Director, City Council President (awarded Lady Crystal as TLOD Area IV Day).
 - ✓ Area IV Featured on Live Radio (W-103)/Television and multiple Media Exposure.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL AREA V DIRECTOR
LADY SYBIL McDOWELL

Objective: Building Community through effective investing in the natural resources of Area V while identifying the opportunities most in need of the services that best utilize our collective assets. As such, we have invested in effective communication utilizing the tools of technology wherever possible. The establishment of an Area V wide Dropbox has allowed us to store and share information freely between various members of the TLOD family, thus enhancing our sustained resources through Leadership Investment and creating a Records Library for future access.

Volunteer service has been evident throughout Area V. Of particular note was the collective self-initiated response to the water contamination crisis in Flint, Michigan. Initially all Michigan chapters pulled together to organize a positive response to that community in need even though we do not have an active chapter in the city. Their efforts were shared with Area V leadership which, in turn, was shared with the National Leadership Investment Team. The clarion Call to Action from our National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman magnified the importance in our TLOD family and through collective action we have made a significant difference in the lives of Flint community members to a level that TLOD can be extremely proud of.

Advocacy and accountability continue to be at the forefront of Area V investment as activity related to the Major Ozell Dean Initiative work to foster and enhance the existence of a caring community in our various localities. "We Care All the Time" is espoused by our direct interactions with our military veterans as we thank them for their service and advocate for improved response to their needs on an as-identified basis. Our Area V Caregiver Award was presented for the first time this year to Lady Drema Woldman as an example of exercising our privilege of being of service as we are called to recognize a need and respond unconditionally.

Leadership development and succession planning investment accelerated when the entire leadership team of chapter presidents and their corresponding TTA Advisors were treated to a President's Retreat. In addition to building team identity, basic skills were enhanced by offerings of chapter management and assessment were shared. Leadership was provided to the Chapters in the execution of role clarification, i.e., monthly conference calls, webinars, one-on-one consultation, follow-up, coaching, etc. as we sought to clarify roles and responsibilities. Over 768 hours were dedicated by the Area V team to continuing this work.

As a result, we have documented increased enthusiasm in the form of heightened engagement in the TLOD process. In addition to increased attendance at P-Top, Conferences and Clusters, our Area V chapters have provided over 23,000 hours of volunteer service, donating over \$60,000 to projects and partnerships and awarding over \$24,000 in scholarships to our graduating Top Teens. Area V reactivated 4 chapters and 14+ Ladies during this biennium.

Our Area V Leadership Conference was designed to lead by example, utilizing our theme: "Total TLOD: Investing in CHANGE...More Love, More Wisdom, More Service" to move us to enhanced unity, empowerment, and social responsibility. We hope that the experience can be replicated on the local level and that chapters will be inspired to reach beyond what they KNOW they can do and to explore the possibilities of greater service through greater works than these...

Thank you for the opportunity to be of Service.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL AREA VI DIRECTOR
LADY BRENDA DODD

Greetings to our Founder, Lady Ozell Dean, National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman, Past National Presidents, Officers and All Ladies, Lords and Teens

It has been a pleasure to serve as National Area VI Director. Area VI has become *"My Latest, My Greatest Inspiration."* My personal goal was to strengthen the chapters through increased communication and continued training while making myself available for personal meetings and serving as a resource in chapter program planning. My goal was to also increase the energy, excitement and enthusiasm levels within Area VI. Each chapter was challenged to grow and excel in the following areas: Continuing Education, Membership, support of our National directives, Mentor/Mentee Program and Sisterly Love.

The 11 chapters have met and exceeded this challenge.

With the Area VI Conference being moved from fall to spring, Area VI experienced a reduction in attendance of Ladies, Lords and Teens. This change adversely affected our revenue. Nevertheless, Area VI continues to grow strong and continues doing the work of the organization with the necessary energy, excitement and enthusiasm. As a result, we have logged almost 10,000 hours in TLOD/TTA community service.

AREA VI ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Continued Education: Chapter Presidents, Financial Officer and TTA Advisors attended workshops at both Area Conferences and two Parliament Tops;
- Leadership skills of members were enhanced/improved by the participation in two successful Clusters. Our recent Cluster was entitled "Back To The Basics." We tapped into the wealth of knowledge of our illustrious Past Area Directors (who served as facilitators and had over 160 combined years of TLOD service and wisdom). Subjects covered were: "Enhancing the Quality of Life with Life Style Changes" (Lady Gailya Mayfield); "You are a 'Top Lady' and ..." (Lady Alice Grigsby); "Preserving Our Legacy and Culture as We Build Our Future" (Lady Mary Guinn); TLOD Rituals (Lady Alna Brown); and TLOD Protocol (Lady Babette De Lay);
- All Chapters supported our partners and participated in the following: UNCF Walk, Sickle Cell Walk, St. Jude Walk, March of Dimes and Compton Breast Cancer Walk;
- Each chapter participated in the National Webinars. Area Thrust Committee Chairs completed all reports;
- Increased TLOD branding through a 2017 Area VI Calendar featuring each chapter and highlighting our Teens;
- Held two successful Area Leadership Conferences 2016 and 2017- San Diego and Los Angeles. The next Area Conference will be held February 22 - 25, 2018 in Phoenix, AZ;
- Increased membership through inductions, retention and reclamation. All chapters had inductions and/or reclaimed members with our newest chapter, (Phoenix Chapter) becoming our fastest growing chapter;
- Increased collaboration among chapters through an active Presidents Council;
- Southern California chapters held a Joint Induction, Joint Founders Day Celebration and St. Jude Walk.

Future Goals

We are seeking to charter chapters in the Inland Empire (Riverside/Moreno Valley) and Portland, OR.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
LADY PAULINE HUNTER

The National Community Beautification Program Committee is responsible for guiding the organization in the execution of TLOD's beautification objectives and activities. Our mission is to maintain and enhance the communities in which we live through beautification, green living, and sustainability activities. The signature program of this thrust is **"America the Beautiful,"** an initiative that impacts the lives of residents of our communities through advocacy, education and partnerships enabling and empowering them to become better environmental stewards through:

- Planting and Maintaining Community Gardens
- Planting Trees and Shrubs
- Graffiti Removal, Community Clean-up
- Recycling/Repurposing
- Green Living Programs
- Adopt-a-Highway/Adopt-a-Spot
- Block Clubs and Neighborhood Watch

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES:

- Partnership with Keep America Beautiful (KAB) participating in the Great American Cleanup Campaign
- Arbor Day
- Adopt an empty lot and plant produce and/or flowers
- Adopt-a-Street/Highway/African American Cemetery/Planter/Block
- Organized nature walks
- Recycling Centers
- Landfill Education Tours

Provide workshops, seminars, town hall meetings addressing:

- ✓ Eco-Vacations
- ✓ Green Living
- ✓ What is Sustainability and Why is it Important
- ✓ Greening your Home
- ✓ Energy Conservation
- ✓ Ways to Go Green
- ✓ Creating a Healthy Household: The Ultimate Guide For Healthier, Safer, Less Toxic Living

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE
LADY JOYCE JACQUET

OBJECTIVE: To build relationship with corporate, local, state and national partners to expand TLOD's reach and maximize the range of service to the communities we serve. The signature program of this Thrust shall be "Joining Forces", an initiative that will impact residents by providing enhanced services to our communities through the formed partnerships.

Volunteer Service Hours-

Area I-2015-17-17,480
Area II-2015-17-10,786
Area III-2015-17-21,928
Area IV-2015-17-18,027
Area V-2015-17-2,110
Area VI-2015-17-2,266

Advocacy and accountability-The Six Areas invested in all 5 Thrust by reaching out to business partners in the community involving churches, car dealerships, schools, colleges, sororities, fraternities, small businesses, nonprofit organizations, etc.

Leadership development and succession planning-The Community Partnership chair managed, lead and facilitated the Area chairs to ensure that they were doing the job in promoting the Community Partnerships Thrust. The Co-Chair assisted the Chair by helping to plan and implement reports and data. The National Community Partnership Chair implemented meetings via conference calls on a regular basis. Served as a motivator of implementing new and innovative projects. Accomplishments occurred during my Leadership was acquiring Partnerships with Bayway Lincoln Dealership which provided a National Reception for TLOD. Bayway did underwrite all expenses for the Reception. They helped to implement a National TLOD/TTA Raffle fundraiser by donating 3 flat screen televisions. This fundraiser provided funds for 25 TLOD chapters which raised over \$25,000. They also provided scholarships funds and Ads on a local level to the Top Teens. Bayway Lincoln provided financial support to the First Annual HBCU Gala in 2016. Coordinated an Area Backpack Drive supporting the Top Teens service project for Syn-Lod.

Unity and Collaboration-All Areas reported in-kind donations from outside partnerships and other organizations such as schools and universities.

Engagement and Empowerment-All Areas participated in through community partnerships in the community. The TLOD/TTA media coverage was implemented through television, radio and newspapers.

Social Responsibility and Sisterly concern- Over 200 Community Partnerships participated in the Thrust/Projects. The people in the communities' needs was met by the services rendered thorough TTA/TLOD volunteering. All Area chapters evaluated their individual programs through their local chapters.

Report Submitted By:

Lady Joyce L. Jacquet-National Community Chair
Lady Annette Mitchell-National Co-Chair



NATIONAL STATUS OF WOMEN END OF THE YEAR REPORT

"Investing In V.A.L.U.E.S That Support Enhance and Sustain"

2015-2017

Goals of Committee: To empower women and teens to improve their economic condition through gainful and successful employment by providing opportunities for skill development, educational enhancement and job preparation skills.

Volunteer Service: Total Number of Hours expended by Ladies Lords and Teens in the execution of the program: **(\$927,280 Volunteer Hours)** Funds expended or donated: **(\$48,352.00)**

Ladies: 1,993, Teens: 719 Lords: 57.

Advocacy and Accountability:

4,361 Clients were serviced and **3,050** were assisted in finding employment through training sessions, **7** actively interviewing, **1** in college pursuing a degree and **8** earning collective scholarship offers in the amount of **\$283,000**. Ladies donated: **2,345** clothing items, **2,745** pairs of shoes, **890** Handbags and **278** Briefcases/Portfolios, **460** Toiletries, The issues chapters invested in include the following:

- Partnered with Dress for Success, Job Corp and other Job Development Programs
- Assisted with preparing the job seeker for the job market and provided job skills training
- Provided venues for job seekers to acquire new skills and promoted self-esteem
- Assisted with interview preparation, resume/cover letter development/Mock Interviews
- Ensured opportunities for selection and provision of appropriate attire and Food Assistance
- Provided opportunities for Continuing Education and Entrepreneurship opportunities.
- Employment skills training, GED and Pre GED Programs, Job Fairs, Resume Writing, Career Building, Work Ethics, Job Placement, Career Fairs, First Impressions and How to Keep a Job.

Leadership Development and Succession Planning:

Quarterly teleconferences, monthly meetings, e-mails, individual assistance and support were provided by the National and Area Chairs for program format, development and data gathering. Contacts were made in October, November, December, January, March, April and May of the Program Years. Co-Chairs were assigned to ensure a smooth transition and additional support.

Unity and Collaboration: Chapter Committees: Dress for Success, Job Corps, Small Business Advisory Councils, Top Teens of America, Community Partnerships, Senior Citizens, Community Beautification, NCNW, NAACP and Literacy. The **Number of Partnerships /Outside Entities: 698**

Engagement and Empowerment: Total number of Community Members participating: **4,268**, materials were distributed by all areas/chapters and 92% of five areas reported Media Coverage or pictures taken.

Social Responsibility: Relevancy of the program to the needs of the community & sustainability.

Effective Programs increased success opportunities and cycles of poverty and instability were broken. Community needs were met and organizations bonded with "Back to Work Programs" for sustainability. Our continued focus will be on: Back to Work Programs, Assisting chapters to accurately tabulate data and to plan programs rather than activities.

Respectfully Submitted: Turnitta F. Rayburn, National Status of Women Chair

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE
LADY DIANA RAYNOR

It gives me great pleasure to provide the National Senior Citizen Committee Report.

Volunteer service: Total Number of Hours: 34,578.5

6 of 6 Areas reported.

Advocacy and accountability: We invested in ensuring our seniors in facilities and at home were educated, supported, loved and treated with respect and dignity. We collaborated with other Thrusts. We beautified where they lived. We supported literacy and education. We worked with Status of Women. We engaged outside agencies when needed. Finally we provided information on health and wellness.

❖ **What we have done:**

- ❖ Senior Citizen home beautification projects
- ❖ Participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's in 2015 & 2016
- Education: Senior/Caregivers health Fairs, Black History Programs
- ❖ Roll to the Poll and Voter registration

Partnerships: Nursing facilities and Senior Citizen Community Centers, Meals on Wheels, Alzheimer's Association, NAACP, NCNW, Veteran Services, AARP, State and Local Officials, School Districts, Government agencies, Non-profit Organizations, Churches and local businesses.

Leadership development and succession planning: The Senior Citizen committee scheduled an initial telephone conference; held one on one individual calls and corresponded via email. My Co-Chair and I spoke twice during this year. Every Area Senior Citizen Chair stated that their chapters are meeting on a regular basis to plan and implement the program throughout the year. Many involve their Top Teens in the planning and implementation process.

Unity and collaboration: \$7,473.92 was donated or received from in-kind donations

- ❖ Unity: Teens and Lords are invited and included in all activities. Often family and friends are involved as well.
- ❖ Collaboration: We are doing excellent collaborating with other programs and projects in our chapters. Examples include: TTA, Community Beautification, NAACP, TLOD Literacy

Engagement and Empowerment: Community Member Participation: 10,241. These numbers include number of residents and members of the community like family and friends and/or civic leaders or staff.

- ❖ Evaluation of Programs: Throughout the Areas, the programs have been on-going for several years. Both the Center's Management and the residents have requested continuation of the programs. Surveys are conducted as well as internal evaluations.

Social Responsibility and sisterly concern: The programs are relative and meeting the needs in the community. We fill the need for companionship, fellowship, family, education and advocacy.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL TLOD LITERACY COMMITTEE

Lady Mary J. Grant - Chairman

Lady Shawna Brown – Co-Chairman

Committee Goal: To enhance, partner, donate, provide and support literacy through educational institutions and resources with our volunteer efforts resulting in an investment in the values that support, enhance and sustain our community.

Volunteer Services - TLOD Literacy Areas reports from Ladies, Lord and Teens reported **26,300** hours and funds allocated/expanded and donated was **\$4,220.00**.

Advocacy and Accountability - TLOD chapters were advocates for literacy in local schools with "Arise Team Read" (Tutoring and Mentoring Program), Reading Coaches, Black History Celebrations and Family Reading Nights. We invested in planning and implementing programs and activities that focus on literacy such as "Literacy Cafe" and TLOD Jewels of the Crown Book submissions. TLOD Ladies participated in Reading Tutor Programs at various community libraries. volunteered at neighborhood learning centers to assist adults with reading challenges, partnered with private companies, government agencies, and drug and alcohol-rehabilitation-centers

Leadership Development and Succession - Programs implemented were utilized to strengthen the TLOD mentor/mentee such as the reading of Sean Covey's The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens was used at a retreat to reinforce in Teens the value of prioritizing, planning and being synergized. Follow-ups and feedback in leadership were expressed through consultations, discussions, workshops, snap chats and evaluation summaries. Chairs took active roles in retreats, monthly report outs and soliciting help on committee meetings

Unity and Collaboration - Chapters had book drives, donation of books and money from outside sources, partnerships and collaboration with Status of Women, NAACP, libraries, YWCA, "Read Across America," "Reading Ambassadors" and "Financial Literacy" with local banks. Unity and Collaboration with Top Teens, Senior Citizen, Status of Women, and Community Beautification worked together on programs such as safety and "Go Green" presentations.

Engagement and Empowerment - There were a total of **10,454** community members participating in the various program/activity where exposure to reading, writing, financial literacy. Promotion and advertisement for the various programs were placed on Facebook, web sites, local churches, sororities, brochures, newspaper, community news and media Book clubs engaged children and their parents. Women Community Partners – Kelly Company / Ronald McDonald//Senior Citizens in Nursing Homes/Children's Hospitals/Black Authors- Book Signing

Social Responsibility and Sisterly Concern - The goals and needs of literacy have been met. Feedback from community, schools and parents were outstanding. The verbal responses of the participants were energetic, exciting and enthusiastic which exemplified responsibility and concern.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL UNCF COMMITTEE

Goals: To support the United Negro College Fund through our existing program allotment received on April 1st. To increase TLOD's contribution to UNCF by fundraising, to provide accessibility to opportunity for UNCF scholarships, financial aid, and to advocate for issues that relate to our UNCF/HBCU schools.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE: Areas I, II, III, IV, V, and VI provided for 2016 cumulative volunteer hours **9081** with a grand total donation to UNCF **\$43,394.04** with over 50 chapters participating Top Ladies, Teens and Lords. 2017 cumulative volunteer hours were **19554.5**, raising a grand total of **\$59,372.41** with participation of 73 chapters of Top Ladies, Teens and Lords with the Faith Initiative, and other UNCF events.

ADVOCACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY: The six area representatives and co-representatives engaged their chapters in the UNCF October 2016 "HBCU PRESERVATION FOR HISTORICAL BUILDING" campaign. Letters, emails, text were sent to legislators, the preservation funded was granted \$4 million through the U.S. National Park Service. UNCF will need our continual advocacy on federal student aid, they applaud the federal student aid victories in 2017, and urges even greater investment in students in FY 2018 budget. TLOD will be ready to make an even greater impact as we receive the request for advocacy on matters that affect our UNCF schools. In 2015-2016 the six areas participated in letter writing to their legislators to support the "American College Promise Act" and the "Parent Plus Loan" helping to restore for our historical black colleges and universities.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESSION PLANNING: The six Areas Chairmen had the responsibility to participate in monthly conference calls, and disseminated information from the National Second Vice President and myself, the UNCF National Chair, to chapter UNCF chairs, and co-chairs. This was very successful with follow-up emails, phone calls and conference calls. Our chapter Ladies, Teens and Lords were informed and participated in the projects. Information was shared at chapter retreats and clusters so that it could be included on their program calendars. We kept them updated with current UNCF headquarters' information that benefited our Teen's future. Top Ladies attended the fall 2016 HBCU Conference sponsored by President Obama and the U.S. Department of Education.

UNITY COLLABORATION: We collaborated with over fifty organizations including the AME, CME, AMEZ, Church of God In Christ, Catholic, Methodist, Baptist Churches, Chicago Defender and Arizona Informant newspapers. Organizations: Jack & Jill, Sororities, Community Colleges, San Diego Chargers, Local Banks, Northern Trust, Parks and Recreation Centers, media coverage with: Hot 105 Radio station and local community T.V. channels. We coordinated with local area UNCF Offices, Teens served as Ambassadors. This is a testament to the work that Top Ladies of Distinction are doing in their communities to have in-kind support of this magnitude. This is just a sample list.

ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT: The Six Areas generated a total cumulative attendance of Community People **17,610** at UNCF Sundays, Gala's, Masked Ball's, Recognition Breakfast, Mayor's Luncheons, Tag Day, Walk for Education, College Fairs, Financial Seminars and conferences. In honor of Top Ladies of Distinctions contributions to the many communities we serve, the National Alumni Council/UNCF honored Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. with the 2017 UNCF Legacy Award accepted by our TLOD National President Lady Drema Lee Woldman for outstanding community service and our financial donations.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBLY AND SISTERLY CONCERNS: We felt the responsibility to provide a path way for our Top Teens to have the opportunity and availability to resources in acquiring a higher education. We encouraged and provide information by way of options to be a part of financial workshops and seminars that could impact their future plans. Chapters were encouraged to provide a scholarship to at least one Teen enrolling at a HBCU which includes 37 of our UNCF schools. In the areas of Advocacy, empowerment, leadership and fund-raising the six area representatives/co-representatives, chapter chairs/co-chairs, chapter presidents led by their Area Directors participated in helping the TLOD-UNCF committee provide the impact we made on our communities, It was a very successful two years with increased funds to UNCF. The 60,000 students are depending on national organizations like TLOD for support. In 2015-2017 we made a difference, thanks to the TLOD Second Vice President-Lady Oteal Gilmore, our TLOD-UNCF team Area Chairs-Ladies Carolyn Clemons; Maude Holt; Janice Thompson; Sharon Heath; Tonya Mills; Nadine Minnis; Co-Chairs-Ladies- Ebony Towns; Carolyn McKie; Patricia Howard; Nadelyn Harris; Dianne Johnson; Alna Brown and the community we solicited. Finally we appreciate the encouragement from our National President Lady Drema Woldman.

Lady Veronica Nesbitt – Chairman

Lady Helen Harvey – Co-Chairman

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL NAACP COMMITTEE

Goal: To ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

Volunteer Service: Top Ladies, Top Teens, and Lords of Areas I, II, III, IV, V, VI have invested in their communities by providing a total of **34,197.5** volunteer hours in the execution of the NAACP Project programming. Funds allocated/expended and donated in communities were **\$13,980**.

Advocacy and accountability: TLOD chapters increased NAACP individual memberships by 258, life memberships by 32 and chapter life memberships by 9. Five Top Teens became life members and three chapters have 100% TTA NAACP memberships. Chapters conducted voter registration drives and distributed voter information in their communities. Over 2000 new voters were registered including eligible Top Teens. Chapters hosted/participated in MLK Day activities; continued their advocacy by making their voices heard against the violence and police killings of African Americans; circulated petitions and engaged in letter writing campaigns to their legislators. Outcomes of organizations and communities outcries were: several cities have created or are in the process of creating Community Police Relations and Oversight Commissions; several school districts and City Councils have published official statements to reaffirm their policies against discrimination, racial and religious hatred; a bill, "2016 End Racial and Religious Profiling" has been introduced in Congress.

Leadership development and Succession planning: As the National NAACP Chair, I provided guidance to Area Chairs by conference calls, emails, phone calls, U.S. Postal service and one-on-one conversations. Over 12 communication contacts were made. Area Chairs and Area Directors were provided the goal and objectives of the NAACP Project for the years 2015 – 2017. Information from the National TLOD President, National TLOD 1st Vice President, and the National TLOD 2nd Vice President was provided to the Area chairs. The National 2nd Vice President and Area chairs were kept informed of National NAACP positions on issues affecting communities they serve. One-on-one consultation with the National 2nd Vice President and National NAACP Co-Chair were conducted for assistance and advice. Emails sent to Area Chairs were also sent to National Area Directors, and the National Chairman of the President's Council.

Unity and collaboration: Several chapters had Ladies and Top Teens participating/attending in the 107th National NAACP convention and the WIN "Women's Empowerment Brunch/Summit". Four Top Teens have received awards at the National NAACP Act-So Competitions. There were collaborations with churches, NCNW, League of Women Voters, sororities and other organizations with voter registration. Chapter members marched to show solidarity with the "Women' March on Washington" for women rights/human rights.

Engagement and Empowerment: Over **6057** community members have been impacted by the NAACP programming. Chapters participated/planned the Freedom Fund Events of which funds were used for scholarships and to support the fight for justice and civil rights. Ladies have participated/attended Forums on policing, law enforcement reform and redistricting. Two chapters have formed WIN units thus fostering a wider TLOD outreach. Several chapters have launched the initiative "Ambassadors of the Evers Academy for African American Males". Several Top Ladies have become charter members of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History And Culture.

Social responsibility and sisterly concern: Chapters have supported the goals of NAACP with needed programming which has benefited the ladies, lords and teens as well as their communities. The activities have promoted awareness of NAACP's causes and the local NAACP branches initiatives. Chapter members are committed to increasing the NAACP memberships to 100%. A concern expressed was: What else can chapters do to promote social change to fight the assault on human, civil rights and social justice?

A heartfelt thank you to the Top Ladies, Top Teens, and Lords for their dedication and commitment to the TLOD/NAACP mission. Our journey for justice is not over. We have much to do. We must be vigilant and move forward with sustaining and radical activism.

Lady Fran Jackson – National TLOD/NAACP Project Chair

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL NCNW COMMITTEE
LADY DARLENE HARDIMON

Objectives and Goals: To lead, develop and advocate for women of African American decent as they support their families and communities. Charged to develop partnerships and collaborate with others to enhance and improve the quality of life by developing programs that educate and train the women and men we serve through:

- Economic empowerment
- Mentoring
- Promoting Healthy Lifestyles and Behaviors through wellness programs

Volunteer Services: Combined total volunteer hours for NCNW **18,409**. Combined NCNW Funds Allocated/Donations **\$2,490.00**

Advocacy and Accountability: across the country, chapters conducted annual membership drives to increase memberships and strengthen chapters of: Legacy Life Members; Life Members Guild; Youth Memberships, College Memberships and Annual Memberships of Men and women

Leadership Development: was reported as being introduced at retreats held across the country with the many chapters of NCNW; topics of empowerment, development strategies, the Status of Women economically, and other tactics learned to develop growth and strengthen the organization

Unity and Collaboration: chapters collaborated with various organizations and attended their events e.g.; the March of Dimes, St. Jude, NAACP, UNCF, Southern Christian Leadership, 100 Black Women, National Action Network, Rite Aide Marathon, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society (Go Red) Project, National Sickle Cell, National AIDES Awareness, High Blood Pressure Coalition, and the American Diabetes Association

Engagement and Empowerment; various chapter events were featured by the media via television talk shows, newspaper and radio announcements of local/community events and fundraisers.

Social Responsibilities and Sisterly Concerns: chapters reported outcomes of various successful programs, some events held as fundraisers; and others to enhance awareness of TLOD and NCNW a partnership with committed women who represent the organization on many platforms. Concerned about sisterly relations our outreach programs have been proven to promote awareness and cohesiveness measured by numbers of participation (outcomes).

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL SICKLE CELL COMMITTEE LADY TERESA NORTON

National Objectives: TLOD's national objectives for Sickle Cell Disease are to increase awareness of Sickle Cell Disease; form a partnership with a local SCDA agency; improve tracking of volunteer hours; and involve TTA in Chapter Sickle Cell efforts.

Volunteer service: From June 2015 through March 2017 56 TLOD Chapters participated in at least three Sickle Cell initiatives nationally: Sickle Cell Advocacy, The TLOD sponsored SCDA National Walk, and Sickle Cell Sunday. Over 1460 TLOD ladies, lords, and teens have expended **14,198** volunteer hours in the execution of the Sickle Cell activities. TLOD Chapters collected a total of **\$24,191.81** towards Sickle Cell Disease Awareness activities.

Advocacy and accountability: Over the last two years, TLOD Chapters invested in advocacy through setup and breakdown of equipment, preparation of food, tables, and handouts, and advertising during community walks, health fairs, food, diaper and blood drives, public presentations ranging from 35 to nearly 400 community supporters, and participation in patient monthly and bi-monthly patient support group meetings. We selected and mentored a Top Teens from each of our six geographical Areas to advocate and serve as Sickle Cell Youth Ambassadors by representing TLOD in the community. We donated backpack with supplies and food to over 100 Sickle Cell patients. Over the summer, Chapters chaperoned and traveled with up to 15 Sickle Cell patients for six days at Sickle Cell Camps. We've enhanced the lives of patients by serving breakfast during holidays while our teens dressed up as elves and distributed donated gifts. We participated in an initiative funded by President Obama, called "Ray of Sunshine Campaign", where we were part of a focus group that helped facilitate a Network Support System to address the concerns of patients and families affected by Sickle Cell. Our teens have donated books, shared literature, and arts, and crafts with younger Sickle Cell patients to enhance their lives. Additionally, we have supported legislation to increase funding to find a cure for Sickle Cell. Our activities supported TLOD's national Sickle Cell Disease Initiative objectives.

Leadership development and succession planning: Nationally, TLOD provided leadership to Chapters through conference calls, one-on-one consultations, follow-up, coaching, and group and individual emails. We participated in monthly conference calls with SCDA to build a partnership that specifically addresses the needs of patients and created a strategy for a joint Clinical Trial Awareness Campaign. We solicited local medical experts, and executive leaders in the Sickle Cell Community to provide professional information as well as opportunities to interact with patients. Members of TLOD are Board members of local Sickle Cell Associations, and volunteer for administrative functions at local Sickle Cell offices.

Unity and collaboration: TLOD collaborated with local Sickle Cell Agencies, local physicians and politicians, churches, local blood centers, local Children's Hospitals, Howard University, Jackson Memorial Diagnostic Treatment Center, The American Red Cross, Sororities, Fraternities, Urban League, New York Life, St Louis Sickle Cell Stroll, Miami Dolphins, University of Miami, and Vanderbilt Medical Center to increase awareness and support families with Sickle Cell.

Engagement and Empowerment: TLOD Chapters created awareness by educating the public and passing out literature, water, juice, and fruit to more than **7160** attendees at various community events throughout the year. Each chapter has volunteered at support group meetings for Sickle Cell patients.

Social responsibility and sisterly concern: TLOD Chapters, and Sickle Cell families provided verbal feedback and completed surveys to ensure that all activities and programs were relevant and met the needs of Sickle Cell families. Some Chapters have placed Sickle Cell activities in as much as 40% of their budgets.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE LADY VERNONYA DUPONT

Honorary members inducted
Chartered chapters/inductees
workshops/webinars

It has been a pleasure to serve as your National Membership Chair. The sweetest part of this journey has been hearing your stories. You have inspired me to create as many opportunities as possible to share your stories (challenges and successes), leverage the wisdom within the organization and work with you in developing strategies to move forward with energy, excitement and enthusiasm!

MEMBERSHIP OFFICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This section covers activities from July 1, 2015 to June 7, 2017.

- First responder to web site inquiries about TLOD Membership. Inquiries are forwarded by the National President to the National Membership Chair within 24 hours of receipt of message.
 - IMPACT: <#> inquiries received, <#> inquiries sent to Area Directors for follow-up, <#> ladies didn't respond to request for more information
 - OUTCOME:
- National Membership chair attended the Area IV (2016 and 2017) and Area II (2016) Conferences. She was very warmly received by Area Membership Chairs Ladies Maria Singh and Hope Ruffin.
 - IMPACT: Graciously given opportunity to greet new Ladies in Area IV during Induction rehearsal and thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Area II Membership workshop
- Facilitated workshops at Parliamen-top 2015, 2016 and 2017
 - IMPACT: National Membership Chair conducted three workshops at Parliamen-top 2015. There were over 200 attendees across the three workshops including Chapter Presidents, TTA Advisors and Membership Chairs. A roundtable discussion with Past National Presidents convened in 2016 and is planned for 2017. Many thanks to Lady Emily
- Responded to chapter inquiries about transfers and recruitment (**~24 hours**)
 - Outcomes: Webinar forth coming to discuss case scenarios, FAQs on website

Rolled out National Membership materials (**~122 hours**)

❖ Impact: 99 attendees across 2 webinars

❖ Outcomes:

❖ 26 chapters held Inductions since rollout; 7 reported using new materials

Convened 5 National Membership Committee Conference Calls (**~50 hours**)

❖ Impact: All 6 Areas were represented on every conference call

❖ Outcomes:

❖ Discussed questions/concerns received from membership

❖ Cooperated with planning for individual Area Conferences

❖ Shared practices at area and local levels

MEMBERSHIP TRENDS

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS COMMITTEE
LADY FRANCINE B. JARVIS

Greetings: National President, Founder, and all Ladies assembled

The recommendations committee is charged with soliciting, receiving, reviewing and preparing recommendations for presentation at Syn lod. The process involves gathering the recommendations forwarded from Area conferences and National officers.

Having attended three of the six Area conferences, I discussed with members of those Areas visited how they can have more meaningful input into submitting recommendations. Those members agreed that many of the members are not aware of which areas can be addressed in making a change/recommendation, or how it can be done. The following were suggestions on how to submit recommendations for consideration. These should be reviewed at a Chapter meeting. You would then have more Ladies involved in the Chapter operations.

1. Chapters should review their bylaws to insure they do not conflict with National bylaws. (Chapter bylaws should be reviewed periodically)
2. Determine which section of bylaw covers the area of concern. (check to avoid duplication)
3. Detail the change/recommendation and give the rationale.
4. Present the item to their Chapter for acceptance. (Parliamentarian review suggested)
5. Review of the item to confirm that the correct form is being submitted.
6. Submission to Area Director for presentation at Area Conference.
7. Adhere to all deadlines for presentation of documents.

Recommendations for presentation are currently submitted to the National Director of Operations, who then forwards them to the Recommendations Chairperson. Submission to both simultaneously might cut down on lag time.

The Ladies I spoke with had lots of suggestions for changes in procedures. I reminded them that the change should be of benefit to the whole organization. I also reminded them that to change and to improve are not the same thing.

I appreciate the opportunity to work with and for the hardest working group of Ladies on earth. I hope to visit the other three Areas next year.

Special thanks to our National President Lady Drema Lee Woldman for her confidence in appointing me to this position.

Lady Francine B. Jarvis
National Recommendations Chairperson

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
LADY ALNA L. BROWN

Beloved Founder Lady Ozell Dean, National President Lady Drema Lee Woldman, National Officers Past and Present, All Top Ladies, Lords and Teens.

It is with the utmost honor and privilege to have been given the opportunity to serve our beloved organization as the National Resolutions Chair. I am very grateful to the National President for allowing me the opportunity to serve.

As Chair of the Resolutions Committee, we are to compile and present Resolutions. From 2015-2017, I have had the pleasure of highlighting the conferences and events and commenting on their success. It has been my goal to perform the duties associated with this office with sincerity and integrity.

I have had the privilege to write Resolutions for the National President, Host Area Director and Chapters for: Parliamen-Top 2015 and 2016.

Lady Drema Lee Woldman, National President, Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated who extended to its Members an invitation to Parliamen-Top 2015 of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. to be held in the City of St. Louis Missouri.

Parliamen-Top 2015 commenced in St. Louis, Missouri, home of the "Gateway Arch" Hosted by Lady Mary Leach Davis, National Area III, Director, and the South Cluster Chapters – East St. Louis, St. Louis, Cardinal and Confluence Chapters. This was Lady Drema's first official meeting as National President, and she did a FANTASTIC JOB!

Resolutions: Parliamen-Top 2016

An invitation was extended for Parliamen-Top-2016 by our National President, which was held in the beautiful City of Glenview, Illinois, Hosted by Lady Mary Leach Davis, National Area III, Director and the North Cluster Chapters.

(Lady Drema's Resolution read in part) Lady Drema, artistically created a new emblem of the TLOD Crown, encircled with the theme of this Administration as follows: "Investing in V.A.L.U.E.S. that Support, Enhance and Sustain"

A Resolution was penned from the report given by Lady Joy Holland, National Legislative, Chair, on Bills H.R. 2875, S. 2168 & S. 1056 Regarding the surge of violence in the country, and attempting to resolve the senseless killings of African-American's By Law Enforcement Agencies all over the United States of America.

Thank you, for the opportunity to serve TLOD, With Sincerity and Love.

Lady Alna L. Brown
National Resolutions Chair

Lady Ouida Brown
National Resolutions Co-Chair

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE
LADY DOROTHY FISHER

Greetings to the National President, Founders, National Officers and All Ladies Assembled:

The following actions were taken by the Chairman and National Nominating Committee:

- The National Nominating Committee met and maintained communication via conference calls and email transmissions beginning August 9, 2016.
- Meetings via conference call were held with the National Technology Team to assure continuation of the online nomination process. Expedious and detailed review of the process by Lady Natasha Goode, National IT Coordinator, resulted in a method to utilize the TLOD website as the portal for completion of the National Nomination process for Ladies and Top Teens.

Use of the TLOD website portal facilitated

- ❖ global notification to the membership of the Nomination Process, including instructions for entry of information for the Official Nominations Form and Optional Resume and uploading of a passport size photo, facilitating the compilation of the Candidate Bulletin;
 - ❖ distribution of The National Campaign Guidelines;
 - ❖ housing of all forms, including the Candidate Eligibility Chapter Verification Form, Nominations Solicitation Letter, the National Candidate Eligibility requirements and the details of the Online Nominations Process, including key deadlines;
 - ❖ global distribution of follow-up notifications, and
 - ❖ global distribution of the Syn-Lod 2017 Official Bulletin of Candidates for National Election
- Verification of candidates with the Area and National Financial Secretaries were undertaken by National Nominating Committee Area Representatives for Ladies and Top Teens.
 - Notification of Eligibility letters were sent to each eligible candidate, TLOD and TTA.
 - Coordinated the Top Teens of America election process with the National Top Teens of America Director and acted as liaison between the National TTA Director and the National Technology Team.
 - Coordinated with the National Area Directors and Area Nomination Committee Chairs who were also utilizing the Online Nomination Process to assure a smooth operational process on the Area level.

The Committee would like to thank Lady Natasha Goode for her assistance and untiring devotion to the accuracy and operation of the Nomination Process. The National Nominating Committee is also appreciative of the opportunity to serve. To each and every one who afforded us this opportunity, we say, thank you.

Respectfully Submitted,

National Nomination Committee

Lady Anna Kirksey, Area 1

Lady Francine B. Jarvis, Area II

Lady Dorothy J. Fisher, Area III-Committee Chair

Lady Ernestine Kelly, Affiliate Representative

Lady Barbara Stowe, Area IV

Lady Patricia Bethel, Area V

Lady Alna Brown, Area VI

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NATIONAL IT DIRECTOR
LADY NATASHA GOODE

The office of the National Director of Technology was a new special appointment under Lady Drema Lee Woldman's administration. Although the responsibilities and accomplishments have been vast, our mission for this office was simple: to provide relevant and cost-effective technology solutions to support the vision and enable the phenomenal growth of Top Ladies of Distinction, Incorporated. We have done that and so much more.

The duties of office include defining, sourcing, and managing all technology infrastructure, hardware and software for the national organization. In addition, the office manages the national webpage and all social media sites for the national organization while carefully monitoring and protecting the TLOD and TTA brands. The office has collaborated with just about every national officer to utilize technology for TLOD and TTA business, projects and programs in some capacity over the past two years. As a result, the period of 2015-2017 has been the most transformative for Top Ladies of Distinction in terms of adopting and embracing technology. We have made significant strides towards increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of how we manage our business. Our accomplishments for 2015-2017 include:

1. Updated and streamlined national website
2. Implementation of a national membership database
3. Implementation of a robust and secure members only site that features a document library, membership directory, membership forums, access to training information, and so much more
4. Implementation of a weekly eNews update from National to all active members
5. Online conference registration for all national and area conferences
6. Online nominations process for national elections and most area elections
7. Published electronic candidate elections' bulletins for Ladies and Teens
8. Development and deployment of a mobile event app for Syn-Lod
9. Extensive use of webinars for national training and communications
10. Expansion of the cloud-based document management system for national
11. Active presence on major social network platforms including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube
12. Implementation of a modified partially-automated membership renewal process
13. Implementation of a modified partially-automated membership induction work process
14. Published the first ever electronic versions of The Crown and the e-newsletter, The Scepter.
15. Presented at all area conferences and hosted technology help desks at the conferences.

Only through serving with Enthusiasm, Energy, and Excitement have we been able to complete this amazing list of accomplishments in just two years. The office of the National Director of Technology has contributed well over 1600 volunteer hours towards the development and implementation of the technology goals. Technology has touched every aspect of how we function within TLOD. The work we have done has built a solid foundation for our future. It will enable us to effectively expand our reach and increase our service for many years to come.

We want to thank Lady Drema, her team, and all Top Ladies for your patience and cooperation over this time. For many of you, it was tough and you invested a lot of hours trying to learn a new way. Thank you for your dedication. Look at the list above. A transformation of this magnitude is never easy, but with your assistance it was possible. We should all be very proud.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
GRANTS COMMITTEE
LADY SANDRA PIERCE

National Grants Team:

Lady Sandra Pierce- Chair
Lady Roxyanne Burrus
Lady Eddie Jean Cheatham

Mission

The mission of the Grants Team is to identify and solicit funds to support the mission of TLOD

Statement

The 2015-2017 National Grants Committee worked to identify funding opportunities to support the mission of TLOD. The committee worked with TLOD Executive Team to apply for grants to meet the programmatic needs of TLOD.

Accomplishments

- The Grants Team developed a Request for Information (RFI) to procure independent grant writing services to solicit funding to support the mission of TLOD. TLOD has received one proposal as of May 29, 2017. The team anticipates receiving two additional proposals.
- The grants committee wrote the following proposals to meet Thrusts of TLOD.

<u>Thrust Area</u>	<u>Focus</u>	<u>Funding Entity</u>	
Youth- ATEAAM	Service Expansion	Wells Fargo- Texas- \$10,000 Wells Fargo- Illinois- \$10,000	Pending
Youth Services	Community service grant- literacy	Sam Club-\$10,000	Not Funded
Youth	Youth leadership grant –Michigan, New Orleans and New Mexico ONLY	Kellogg-\$30,000	Pending
Status of Women	Develop financial literacy workshops to empower women in the workforce	Kellogg-\$15,000	Pending
Community Beautification	Martin Luther King Day of Service	CNCS \$150,000	Not Funded
Other	NA	IBM- Employer Match Program	Employee Contribution

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE LADY JACKIE POPE

The only purpose of the TLOD Fundraising Committee is to raise money for the successful implementation of all programs and activities. While fundraising is challenging, the team understands that it is an important means to an end.

With the approval of National President Lady Drema Lee Woldman, the committee embarked upon its first major event – a gala saluting graduates of historically Black colleges and universities. The phenomenal event was held Saturday, September 24, 2016 in Houston, Texas. Ten outstanding Houstonians were honored, 595 were in attendance, post-gala entertainment provided by Regina Belle (courtesy of AARP), Lady Drema Lee Woldman and Houston city dignitaries in attendance. A pre-gala reception saluting the honorees was sponsored by Bayway Lincoln in their beautiful showroom. Information regarding HBCUs was disseminated to the audience. A great success!

Based on the success of this local event that was held in Houston, several Top Ladies from across the country indicated their interest in sponsoring a similar event. To that end, the committee developed a syllabus for implementing a fundraising program honoring graduates of HBCUs. The syllabus has been distributed to all TLOD chapter presidents and can be accessed on the organization's website.

Further, a TLOD Capital Campaign was launched at the 2016 Parliamen-Top with enthusiasm, energy and excitement. The goal is to raise \$250,000.00 by October 2018. All Top Ladies are encouraged to participate in one of the following categories with a pledge amount of their choosing:

\$1,000
750
500
250
150
100

The Fundraising Committee was able to secure a donation of \$100,000 from Houston attorney and philanthropist Anthony W. Hall, Jr.

The Fundraising Committee will be a resource for all chapters that plan to sponsor a HBCU gala. Further, the committee will continue to work diligently to secure grants, funding from businesses and corporations and pursue any and all opportunities to raise funds for total TLOD programming.

Lady Jackie Pope, Chair
National Fundraising Committee

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.



TLOD/A-TEAAM REPORT

Peggy Lewis LeCompte, National Coordinator

Lady Audrie Lawton, National Consultant

Dr. Juanita Doty and Dr. Karla McCullough, Trainer/Consultants

“Young males of color are too important to forget too valuable to leave behind, too often discussed and yet too often failed.”

Dr. Karla McCullough

The TLOD/A-TEAAM Program (a partnership with the Medgar and Merlie Evers Foundation and the Juanita Sims Doty Foundation) has as its purpose the following: *“...to improve the quality of life for young males of color by equipping them with the necessary skills, knowledge and support provided by caring mentors...to inspire young males of color to honor their own lives and the lives of their forefathers as they interact with the village of role models and mentors...to provide guidance, utilizing a meaningful curriculum, to empower young men as they matriculate through life as youth and then through life with an articulated success...to motivate and encourage young males to participate positively in their communities and make positive life choices.*

The purpose is carried out in a series of central and meaningful activities packaged in a curriculum/toolkit of character development traits and curriculum messages outlined in 12 mentoring sessions provided during the year. The activities include workshops on Etiquette, Responsibility, Self -Protection, Leadership, Integrity, Bullying, Reading and Creative Writing, Diversity and Respect, Career Preparation, and Civic Engagement. They also participate in cultural activities and events and community service programs and events.

Chapter Coordinators participate in Training Sessions and provide feedback, evaluation of activities and the program activities, provided data, choose the Ambassadors and their mentors. The National Coordinator and National Consultant plan training sessions, collect data, provide materials, seek funding, plan conference calls and meetings with Coordinators, prepare budget, track spending, facilitate the effective management of the program, support growth and development, collaborate with partners, and make recommendations.

More than 200 Ladies have been involved in mentoring, facilitating and/or sponsoring activities for the teams. More than fifty organizations have been involved as partners, presenters and mentors for the Ambassadors and included in this group are Congressmen, State Legislators City Councilmen, Mayors, ministers, sports figure, fraternity members as well as members of the sororities. This year 72 young men have completed the program and one tenth of them have expressed a desire to become members of Top Teens of America. Future activities include: Training and Workshop for Coordinators at Syn-Lod and Parliamen-Top; attendance for Coordinators and Ambassadors to the Medgar Evers National A-TEAAM Summit in Jackson, MS and a visit to the home of Medgar Evers and the Medgar Evers Civil Rights Museum, June 8-10, 2018.

Our coordinators who have participated in training sessions, workshops and conference calls are Area I: Houston-Nita Gilbert, Humble – Joyce Jacquet and Barbara Smith, River City-San Antonio – Pearl Conyers and Rhonda Harris; Area III – East St. Louis-Nicole Sisson-Sailor, North Cluster Chicago – Karen Dilligard; Area V – Cincinnati – Jenell Chriss; and Area VI – Starlight-Ouida Brown.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
TLOD WELLNESS COMMITTEE
LADY CAROLYN STANLEY AND LADY CHERYL J. WILLIAMS

The National Health and Wellness Committee focuses on areas related to women's health and preventative care. **Breast Cancer, Heart and Stroke, Diabetes, Clinical Trials and Caregiving.** Breast health awareness continues to be a major concern impacting the future of all women. African American and Hispanic women have a higher mortality rate than our Caucasian sisters, for reasons that remain unidentified. Poor health care, lack of insurance and fear of confronting a poor diagnosis are all contributors to the factors women face. In an effort to confront these issues which plague the underserved community, I participated with women who use edutainment , entertainment and education, to deliver presentations in the format of short plays ,followed by discussions surrounding the issues that exist today. SHOWS, is a non-profit organization, dedicated to this cause. The audience influenced is primarily underserved medically and have limited or no insurance which contributes to being excluded from routine visits to a physician. The Cleveland Metropolitan Housing Authority, inner city housing , has been the site of 3 events this year that empower the participants. A question and answer session follows. An evaluation following the event is presented. Follow up occurs if needed with participants who desire support during treatment. Average attendance is 25-40 women and men.

Future projects will include partnership with the Breast Cancer and Cervical Project, of Metropolitan Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio to perform free mammograms for women who qualify. Mammograms will occur in a mobile van at a local church in the inner city. This is an excellent community outreach service program.

Top Ladies GCC, are participating in the Race for the Place, with the Gathering Place, a cancer support facility, located in the Beachwood, Ohio. This fund raiser helps to keep programs free of charge to any one coping with a cancer diagnosis.

To support Clinical Trials, registration with the X Talks Webinars was established to encourage participation through seminars promoting clinical trials. This area needs improvement. It will be the focus of more information to encourage participation in trials to improve health in the future years.

April was celebrated with a NIH/FDA Symposium of Women's Health newsletter emailed to the chapters and passed to the members. This was designed to include ways to keep women safe through patient feedback.

An exhibition of literature was available for ladies attending the Area 5 conference in Louisville Kentucky to support all areas of focus. Patient aids and impact information specific to each area of focus was available.

A newsletter with valuable information for individuals who find themselves as Caregivers was presented with suggestions on ways to improve life for the caregiver as well as those needing care. November is National Family Caregivers Month. Some suggestions are,

Have legal documents in order.

Take care of your own health.

Seek support from other caregivers.

Next calendar year will continue with attention to the same areas and focus on expanding our agenda to reach and share information to the organization.

In Service,

Lady Cheryl J. Williams, National Co Chair Health and Wellness Committee

Lady Carolyn Stanley, National Co-Chair Health and Wellness Committee

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
TTA SPECIAL PROJECTS COORDINATOR
LADY MAVIS MERRITT

Duties and Responsibilities

Liaison for Special Projects for Top Teens of America as assigned by the National President. Currently, we have two special projects.

St Jude Children's Research Hospital—Duties include but not limited to:

- Communicating with Chapter Coordinators and Area Advisors to ensure they have all of the information needed to have successful fundraising events.
- Preparing and presenting conference calls and meetings with St. Jude, as well as Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.
- Understanding the technical aspect and Assisting with creating chapter fundraising pages on the Top Teens of America Walk Benefiting St Jude site.
- Presenting workshops and conference calls explaining how the St Jude Partnership works.
- Reviewing all documents created by TLOD prior to distribution and final approval from St Jude.
- Follow up on reporting funds for chapters and locating missing funds to have credited to the Top Teens event page.

Blessings In A Backpack TTA Initiative—Duties included but not limited to:

- Creating documents for distribution at Area and National levels to support the initiative.
- Keeping communication lines open for questions.
- Soliciting donations for the National Service Project.

2016 First annual Top Teens of America Walk Benefiting St Jude were held across the country
Our goal was \$30,000; over \$41,000 was raised across the country.

Blessings in a Backpack TTA Initiative—all 6 Areas supported the National TTA Initiative. Back Packs were distributed at each conference Over 7,000 Backpacks were distributed since the beginning of this initiative. Area I exceeded 1,000 backpacks at each conference.

2017 Final results are pending for Top Teens of America Walk Benefiting St Jude.

Blessings in a Back Pack TTA Initiative—All 6 Areas supported on the Area level and at this time Donations are being solicited from local businesses, for the National Convention in June. Teens, Lords and Ladies will assemble backpacks for distribution.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE MARCH OF DIMES/HEALTHY CHOICES COORDINATOR LADY JACQUELINE CARTER

Appointed as the March of Dimes liaison by National President Lady Drema Lee Woldman for the program year 2015-2017.

Coordinator Responsibilities:

- Serve as the liaison between Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. and the National March of Dimes Office.
- Attend conferences and events sponsored by March of Dimes.
- Develop a National Campaign for Top Ladies and Top Teens to participate in the March of Dimes Prematurity Awareness month.
- Develop a National Campaign for Top Ladies and Top Teens for the March of Dimes National Prematurity Awareness Day, November 17.
- Assist chapters with coordinating or partnering with other organizations to have a Healthy Choices Conference.
- Conduct webinars and conference calls with Top Teens Advisors and March of Dimes Coordinators.
- Assists chapters with creating fundraising pages.
- Monitor donations collected for March of Dimes.
- Create a final report for chapters and areas that participated in the March of Dimes fundraising year.
- Communicate National March of Dimes initiatives to chapters.
- Coordinate with the National March of Dimes office to prepare awards for outstanding fundraising chapters and areas.
- Submitted articles for the Scepter.
- Presented March of Dimes Initiative during Advisors Institute during Parliamen-Top.
- Presented March of Dimes Initiative during Area Conferences and Cluster meetings.

2016-2017 Fundraising Campaign

- Raised - \$33, 967.00
- 68 chapters reported

2015-2017 Program Years

- World Prematurity Day (November 17) -Top Teens and Top Ladies were encouraged to wear purple and post photos on social media.
- World Prematurity Awareness Month (November)- Top Teens and Top Ladies posted individual bay photos every Thursday during the month of November utilizing the caption - **November is Prematurity Awareness Month and Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. and Top Teens of America supports the March of Dimes.**

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMITTEE LADY JANIE F. COOPER

The role of the Elections Committee are to make the necessary arrangements and prepare for conducting the national election. The 2017 national elections will take place on Tuesday, June 27, 2017 from 7:00a to 11:00a. Top Teens will vote between 7:00a and 8:30a and Top Ladies will vote between 9:00a and 11:00a.

V – Volunteer Hours: Twenty-five to thirty-five hours were spent in communication with Area Directors, election team members from all six areas, contracting with TouchPoll of Georgia (polling company), preparing and delivering election documents for printing, preparing assignments for team members and preparation of a PowerPoint that explains voting procedures.

A – Advocacy and Accountability: Additional assistance was requested from Area III chapters and Area III membership chairmen and the response was positive.

L – Leadership and Development: All election team members received email communication which included their assignments on election morning and initial explanations of the voting procedures. Final instructions will be provided and materials distributed the morning of the election.

U – Unity and Collaboration: Lady Helena Dodson, National Area II Director, Lady Janice Scimmons, National TTA Director, Lady Sandra Jennings, National Financial Secretary, Lady Monica Edwards Jones, LPCC TTA Advisor, Lady Dorothy Fisher, National Nominating Committee Chairman, and a host of Teens representing all areas as well as others Area III Ladies collaborated to ensure the smooth running of the election.

E – Engagement and Empowerment: Ladies and Teens were enthusiastic and volunteered for/accepted their assignments.

S – Sisterly Concern: Grateful to Lady Anne Mitchell, Immediate Past Elections Chairman for her support and guidance as I attempt to complete the task before me.

Team Members: Teen DeAndrea Smith, Teen Collin Williams, Teen Nyah Cantrell, Teen Alexis Clark, Teen Jeremiah Carter, Teen Reginald Bailey, Lady Monica Edwards Jones, Lady Valerie Carter, Lady Carolyn McKie, Lady Lynda Garrison-Carlton, Lady Anita Luster, Lady Melody Coleman, Lady Dawna Dilworth, Lady Versonya DuPont, National Membership Chairman, and Lady Tonia Humphrey

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
BUILDING & PROPERTIES COMMITTEE
LADY MARY C. HAMILTON

It is October 31, 2016 the van arrives at 2013 Southmore and its moving day; we about to embark on our new venture moving into our new home at 2607 Prospect, which becomes a reality on November 1. Now the home has been carefully inspected by Ladies Faye B. Bryant, Jackie Pope and Mary Catherine Hamilton and deemed fit and proper for The National Office of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

We are now preparing to furnish for use by the TLOD chapters.

DOWNSTAIRS

The larger room is for small chapter meetings, inductions and other social activities.

The smaller room can be used for smaller committee meetings.

Well stocked kitchen is available for both venues.

Meeting room with conference table for six for smaller group

UPSTAIRS

Office for the headquarters administrator

Office for TLOD store

Meeting room for a larger group

Office for the National President

Adequate storage spaces are available on second and third floors.

We are feverishly working in preparation for the OPEN HOUSE tentatively set for JULY 29, 2017.
Excitement is an understatement.

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

The National Strategic Planning Committee is responsible for developing the multi-year strategic plan that guides the organization's activities in support of the TLOD Vision and Mission. Duties and responsibilities include: staffing a draft plan with National leadership, all of the Areas, and key stakeholders; making the plan available for the entire membership to review and provide feedback during the process; and conducting a Strategic Planning Workshop at Syn-Lod, when appropriate. The process culminates with the committee presenting the final plan (a living document) at Parliament-Top for endorsement. Additionally, this committee performs due diligence in the area of measuring how our organization is performing in achieving the Goals and supporting Objectives that make up the plan and report progress at national meetings.

The current National Strategic Plan spans five years, Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 thru FY 2020 (July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2020). Our TLOD Goals are:

- (1) Increase and Sustain Membership
- (2) Enhance the Top Teens of America (TTA) Program
- (3) Develop and Implement a Marketing and Branding Plan
- (4) Establish and Execute an Information Technology (IT) Strategy and Management Approach
- (5) Build and Maintain an Organizational Infrastructure to Support Growth

Accomplishments at the Chapter, Area, and National levels support this plan and demonstrate to members, supporters, partners, and Corporate America the level of impact, maturity, growth, and professionalism our 100+ chapters have achieved and continue to build upon.

To keep our finger on the pulse of the organization and ensure we monitored and tracked TLOD's progress, the committee members: attended our respective area conferences and clusters; engaged in national conferences; and participated in special events, such as The Black Women's Agenda Workshop & Symposium, which TLOD is an Affiliate of. At these venues, we were able to capture details on programs, projects, activities, and partnerships that supported the national goals and objectives from reports rendered to include "The State of TLOD" reports from the National President and National Area Directors. For feedback from other Area conferences and events, the Committee Chair synchronized with the National President on any updates requiring inclusion to the strategic plan status report. Additionally, we reviewed the content on both the public facing and members-only webpages on our National website to include the Weekly News Bulletin, The Scepter national newsletter, conference reports, and applicable webpages for programs/projects/committees.

The National Strategic Planning Committee lauds the successes of the entire TLOD membership. Ladies, Lords, and Teens have exemplified excellence by significantly impacting our local communities and the reputation of this organization as a whole. Keep up the great work in achieving our Goals and Objectives at the Chapter, Area, and National levels!

Please feel free to direct any questions or feedback to the National Strategic Planning Committee Chair, Lady Michelle Smalls, at tlodstrategicplanchair@gmail.com, or (631) 806-1246.

Lady Michelle Smalls, Chair

Lady Delores Bazile, Co-Chair

Lady Naomi Nesbitt, Co-Chair

Lady Juanita Butcher, Member

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
LADY REGINA DICKSON

To the National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman, Founders, National Officers, Past National Presidents and all assembled. It has been a privilege to serve Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. (TLOD) with *Enthusiasm, Energy, and Excitement* as the **National Editor of the Newsletter** and as a member of the Investing Team.

It is with gratitude to Lady Drema Lee Woldman, for appointing me to serve as the National Editor of the Newsletter for the past two years, and I am thankful. The development and publication of *The Scepter* would not be possible without the cooperation of the awesome chapters, Top Ladies and Area Directors in all six areas. Your submissions showcasing Chapter News, Top Ladies in The News, Memoriam and Area Conferences are appreciated. Thank you for continuing to assist with bringing Lady Drema's vision to fruition and branding our organization through online digital publishing. You can view each edition of *The Scepter* on the TLOD website at www.tlodinc.org.

The National Editor of the Newsletter has responsibilities, duties and accomplishments as follows:

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Develop and publish the official national e-newsmagazine (newsletter) for Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., known as *The Scepter*.

Accomplishments:

1. Publications:

- a. Published four editions of the organizations official national e-newsmagazine (newsletter), *The Scepter* in a digital format as follows:

- The Inaugural Edition of *The Scepter*, Volume I, Winter/Spring 2016
- *The Scepter*, Volume II, Spring/Summer 2016
- *The Scepter*, Volume III, Summer/Fall 2016
- *The Scepter*, Volume IV, Fall 2016/Winter 2017
- Top Teens of America 2016 *Graduating Seniors Edition*

2. Other Assigned Duties:

- a. Assisted the National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman with developing and publishing in a digital format the:
 - Call to the 40th Syn-Lod - **2017 Convention Guide for Top Ladies of Distinction**
- b. Assisted the National Top Teens Director, Lady Janice Scimmons with developing and publishing in a digital format the:
 - Call to the 40th Syn-Lod - **2017 Convention Guide for Top Teens of America**
- c. Assisted the National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman with the publication of programs for various 2017 Syn-Lod events.

Top Ladies, thank you for the opportunity to serve as the National Editor of the Newsletter. **TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**
Serving Youth and Adults with Passion!

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL WORKSHOP COORDINATOR

Goal: The goal of the External Workshop is to provide information that is pertinent to the lives, needs and desires of the attendees.

Objectives:

- Provide workshops that provide tools, strategies or coping techniques.
- Select Presenters who are experts in specific areas.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the workshops

There are many issues that we encounter in our daily lives that present challenges to our total wellbeing; some challenges if not identified and resolved may result in negative physical, mental, financial or health issues. These issues are not usually addressed within the confines of regular TLOD meetings or workshops but may have an underlining impact in the success of the chapter, i.e. decrease in attendance, loss of members or lack of growth. The first External Workshops were held at Parliamen Top 2016. The comments were positive with one major suggestion that workshops are not presented concurrently.

The following workshops were presented:

A Little Understanding: Bridging the Generation Gap: Lady Shanita Baraka Akintonde, Presenter

Lady Akintonde has earned three degrees: BA in Advertising, MBA and M.Ed. She is an advance Toastmaster. This workshop highlighted the need to communicate on all levels and not develop the spirit of fear of the young.

Bullying: Dr. Triesta Fowler, MD, Presenter, has been a medical officer at Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

It was emphasized there are numerous types of Bullying and it is not restricted to one age group, social economic status, religious affiliation or race. It is important to think before you speak or act; consider the consequences.

Social Media: Lady Natasha Goode, Presenter, is a Commercial Manager for Dow Chemical Company. She has actively served in TLOD lending her technical expertise and skills to accelerate the technology efforts of TLOD.

This is the age of new and continuous changing technology. Technology is part of the times and we must embrace and learn to adapt to the change. Lady Goode gave practical instructions on operating hand-held devices.

How to Write a Business Plan: Lady Sandra D.H. Hunt, Presenter, is the Owner/President and CEO of D's Janitorial Services, Inc. a family owned and operated Commercial Cleaning Service.

Lady Hunt gave a personal account of how she and her family started the business with an idea that has grown into a profitable business. Your Dreams can turn a profit with persistence, research and a strategic plan.

Can We All Just Get Along? Lady Eddie Lee Marsh, Presenter, is a retired certified Mental Health Educator, Case Manager, Program Coordinator, Executive Director and Special Education Teacher. She received her BS degree in Education and advance studies in Behavior Disorders.

The jest of this workshop demonstrated how religious beliefs, culture, age, race and environmental influences our thoughts and actions toward people.

Help Me Make It Through the Night: Understanding Grief & Loss. Lady Pamela Bates Porch, Presenter is the Associate Minister at St. James Industrial M.B. Church.

It is natural to grieve; however people grieve and cope with death/losses in different ways and time frames.

Who Are You? Developing and Marketing Your Brand Lady Felicia Shakespeare. Presenter is a bestselling author; brand strategist, motivational speaker and well know advocate for library media and education.

Lady Felicia held an interactive workshop on identifying personal brands. You are who you think you are should work toward promoting your brand.

Lady Eddie Lee Marsh, Chairperson

Lady Betty L. Edwards, Co-Chairperson

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE VIVIEN COE RICHARD TTA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY LADIES ANNA AND CARMEN KIRKSEY

The goal of the TTA Leadership Academy is to identify and develop leaders representative of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc., and serve as a cornerstone for achievements. The Academy will provide through intensive and interactive seminars and projects activities that foster decision making, problem solving, negotiating, communicating, and conflict resolutions.

- Identify existing/emerging leaders.
- Develop and attain those appropriate skills/behaviors to deal with situations.
- Help develop/master new skills and reduce or eliminate skills that may interfere with performance.
- Provide opportunities to exercise leadership.
- Create a means to establish and maintain relationships with other leaders.
- Plan and Coordinate the TTA Leadership curriculum to theme established by the National TLOD. President.
- Determine appropriate housing for Academy participants.
- Identify means of transportation to & from as well as during the Academy.
- Identify chaperones and transporters of Academy participants.

Seventy applications were submitted and from that number Twenty-three applicants were selected. Teens represented Areas I, II, III, V and VI. The National TTA President was invited as were Area TTA Presidents provided their Area or chapter paid their airfare.

The 2016 Vivien Coe Richard Top Teens Leadership Academy convened at the Hilton Garden Inn in Webster, Texas July 17-22 and participated in the National Aeronautical Space Association Space Center (NASA)/Space University program where classes were conducted daily for five days from 8:15a-4:00p.

The Academy's theme was "Discovering the Power of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math" (STEAM). All activities were competitive hands on interactive with connections to real life situations such as constructing space habitats, building rovers for Mars, building and launching space rockets, astronaut training in a Buoyancy Lab. All activities incorporated & developed leadership skills, collaboration, team building, problem solving, decision making, risk taking, and effective communication, and results were reflected with awards to the following: Team Spirit placed 2nd in Rocket Launching, & 3rd Habitual Habitat; team Sojourner placed 1st in Cryogenics, and 3rd in Rover; and team Phoenix placed 2nd Habitual Habitat. The arts component was explored at Houston's Ensemble Theater where Teens had workshops on Sound Design, Set Design, Acting, Custom Design, Lighting and two days later Teens saw production "Satchel Paige and the Kansas City Swing" and applied what was learned two days prior.

This was an award winning Academy!

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
LADY STEPHANIE DUNN

It has been my distinct honor to serve as the National President's Council Chairman for 2015-2017. In this capacity, I facilitated the following at the request of our National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman with *Enthusiasm, Excitement and Energy*:

- Conducted quarterly Chapter President Council meetings with the National President and Chapter Presidents in Areas I, II, III, IV, V, and VI. National Area Directors were also invited to participate in these conference call meetings. Presidents were provided opportunities to include questions/concerns on the meeting agendas prior to sharing. Important initiatives and information pertinent to the efficient operation of chapters was discussed. Chapter Presidents also had opportunities to address the National President with questions/concerns as Lady Drema Lee Woldman shared the latest updates regarding the organization.
- Facilitated President's Institute at ParliamenTop 2016 – Chapter presidents, along with 1st & 2nd vice presidents were invited to participate in a series of leadership workshops designed to support their roles.
- Conducted President's Council Committee Meeting at ParliamenTop 2016 – Chapter presidents and 1st & 2nd vice presidents were engaged in an interactive workshop designed to refine leadership skills, share strategies and procedures that work, and apprise of TLOD updates. *Chapter President Buddies* were selected, at random, to encourage communication between presidents from different areas/chapters.
- Regularly forwarded information via email and clubexpress regarding upcoming TLOD events, webinars, and initiatives from National President, National Officers, and National Committee Chairs, as requested.
- Worked to support chapter presidents as needed
- Facilitated requests from National President as assigned

Thank you for the opportunity to serve and support the tenets of TLOD!

Humbly submitted,

Lady Stephanie E. Dunn
National Chapter President's Council Chair

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT, AND SUCCESSION PLANNING TEAM LADY EMILY JONES

To Lady Drema L. Woldman, National President, Founders, Officers and all beloved Top Ladies,

Greetings! I am pleased to present the report of the Leadership, Development and Succession Planning Team.

The Leadership, Development and Succession Planning Team was charged to design, develop and implement learning experiences through Institutes and Workshops for Top Ladies during our National Meetings - Parliamen-Top and Syn-Lod. The Team's goal was to lead the charge given of organizing and implementing training for officers, aspiring officers and interested members with **Energy! Enthusiasm and Excitement!**

During Parliamen-Top, October 2015, four Training Institutes (7 hrs. each) and five Workshops (1 hr. each) were planned and implemented. The President's Institute (109 ladies attended); the TTA Advisors Institute (68 ladies attended); and the Financial Fitness Institute (65 ladies attended) and the Area Director's Institute (22 ladies attended). The four Workshops – "Who's on First" (87 ladies attended); Membership strategies (40 ladies attended); Protocol (48 ladies attended) and Parliamentary Procedures and Effective Chapter Meetings (91 ladies attended). Certificates of Completion were provided to each participant. These learning experiences were well received, 94% of the responders to the evaluation, rated the Institutes overall as Excellent to Good while 97% of the responders rate the Workshops overall as Excellent to Good.

For Parliamen-Top September 2016, similar results were observed. Four Training Institutes and one Roundtable and Workshop were held. The President's Institute (100 ladies attended); TTA Advisor's Institute (68 ladies attended); the Financial Fitness Institute (38 ladies attended) and the Area Director's Institute (18 ladies attended). The Roundtable – Membership Strategies, featuring a panel of Past TLOD National Presidents (35 ladies attended) and the Workshop – "Is it Legal" (30 ladies attended). Again, of the responders to the evaluation, 98% rated the Institutes overall as Excellent to Good and the Roundtable and Workshop, 99% rated those as Excellent to Good. Certificates were provided to each participant of the four Institutes.

Our sincere thanks and gratitude is extended to the many presenters (over 70 presentations were made) for their thought provoking, stimulating and informative presentations during the Training held at the two Parliamen-Top Meetings. Additionally, we thank all facilitators, recorders and technology assistants who graciously gave of their time and expertise to ensure the successful implementation of our Institutes and Workshops!

This Team is in the final planning stages for the Institutes and Workshops that will be held during Syn-Lod 2017 in St. Louis, MO. on Friday, June 23rd! Plan to attend! They will again provide impactful learning experiences. We thank the presenters, facilitators, recorders and technology assistants in advance for their preparation to **SERVE!** Most importantly, we thank our National President for the opportunity to serve TLOD in this capacity.

Lady Emily J. Jones, Chairman

Lady Barbara Travis, Co-Chairman

Lady Carrie Howard, Facilitator

Lady Stephanie Dunn, Facilitator

TOP LADIES OF DISTINCTION, INC.

REPORT OF THE
PAST PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL
LADY JACKIE POPE

The Past National Presidents Council is comprised of the following members:

Lady Faye B. Bryant	3 rd National President
Lady Bobbie W. Moorehead	5 th National President
Lady Jacquelyn H. Parker	6 th National President
Lady Dorothy A. Chimney	8 th National President
Lady Vivien Coe Richard	9 th National President
Lady Peggy LeCompte	10 th National President
Lady Jackie Pope	11 th National President
Lady Audrie Lawton	12 th National President

These illustrious Top Ladies served our beloved sisterhood with dedication, hard work, compassion and vision during their respective tenures as National President. The current National President, Lady Drema Lee Woldman, is continuing the TLOD tradition of “service to youth and adults” with astuteness, a comprehensive plan to move the organization forward and total dedication to all things TLOD.

It is in that regard that the Past National Presidents Council was given an important assignment. That assignment is to review the Rituals of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. and to make recommendations that will update information relative to the various ceremonies that are integral to the organization. The goal is to ensure that the ceremonies are timely, reduce redundancy and to eliminate unnecessary language, while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the ceremony.

Each Past National President has been provided with a copy of the current Rituals. The council will meet and conduct its due diligence following Syn-Lod and will present a representative report at 2017 Parliament-Top.

The Past National Presidents Council remains committed to the ideals, purposes and principles that are embodied in the membership of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

Lady Drema Lee Woldman
National President

