

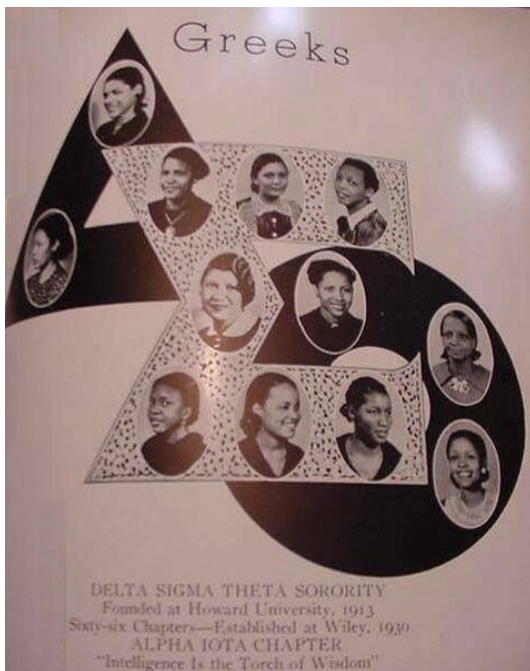
## SOUTHWEST REGION HERITAGE & ARCHIVES MOMENT

*The Heritage and Archives Committee is featuring the Region's first Collegiate and Alumnae Chapters: Alpha Iota and Dallas Alumnae.*

### *Dallas Alumnae Chapter – What's in a Name?*

The Dallas Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta has the singular distinction of being both the first Black Greek letter organization to be chartered in Dallas County, TX and of a Dallas area chapter to be chartered by a Founder. Chartered in 1924 by Founder Frederica Chase Dodd along with charter members Ruth Mason, Ruby Pollard, Jesse Pollard, and Nettie Wycliff, Dallas Alumnae has been in the forefront of addressing issues and public service needs of the local community for more than nine decades. However, the chapter's name went thru several iterations before becoming Dallas Alumnae. Initially organized as the Eta Beta Chapter, the Chapter's first president was Founder Frederica Chase Dodd. The name was revised in 1927 to Eta Sigma. Another name change occurred when the chapter's original charter was lost in a fire and a new charter was applied for and obtained. On Sunday, June 23, 1932, at the home of Ruby Pollard Reid, the chapter name was changed to Beta Delta and the name remained until 1960. As a point of reference, prior to 1956, alumnae chapters were named using the Greek alphabet. Grand Chapter voted to discontinue the use of Greek letter names for alumnae chapters at the 24th National Convention held in Detroit, Michigan in December 1956. Following the vote, Greek letter names for alumnae chapters were no longer used or recognized by Delta Sigma Theta and alumnae chapters were instead named using their geographic location. Therefore, in 1960, the Beta Delta Chapter became the Dallas Alumnae Chapter.

### *Alpha Iota Chapter – They Were First*



Chartered on November 24, 1930 at Wiley College Marshall, TX, Alpha Iota Chapter has the distinct designation of being the first undergraduate chapter established in the Southwest Region. Charter members were Henrietta Pauline Bell, Ethel Ravilla Ellison, Thelma Cofield, Bobbie Natalie Van Zandt, Estella Jordan, Thelma Louise Brown, Ola Marie Yates, Mabel Ruby Saddler, and Myrtle Mae Saddler. Henrietta Bell served as the chapter's first president and Catherine Moon Perkins served as the chapter's second president.

Past Southwest Regional Director, Shirley A. Fridia (1993 -1997) was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in December 1958 at Alpha Iota Chapter.

Current Chapter Officers are: Journie Davis-President, Akyhya Hudson-Vice President/Audit Chair, Alexcia Weatherly-Treasurer, Alexandra Kennedy-Financial Secretary, Hilari Collier-Corresponding Secretary/Historian, Vivion Green-Recording Secretary/Chaplain, Stephaine Cancel-Journalist/Public Relations, Fanceasca Pinnock-Parliamentarian.

Program picture found at <https://i.pinimg.com/736x/23/bf/59/23bf598374ce9b711f34298d2681e348.jpg>