

Hortense CanadyNational president

Delta Leaders Make

Final Plans For

Dallas Convention

DALLAS-Top officers of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., led by National President Hortense G. Canady, of Lansing, Michigan, met here to plan the organization's 38th national convention, set for Dallas, August 3-7, 1985.

"We'll bring the Big D to the Big D," Mrs. Canady quipped at a City Hall reception for the planners.

She received the keys to the city and a warm welcome from city council-members Albert Lipscomb and Larry Rucker acting for the mayor who was in San Francisco.

The cordial remarks of city officials were echoed by Al Herron, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, Bishop College President Wright L. Lassiter Jr., and heads of Dallas Greek letter organizations

Mrs. Canady said Delta is planning for 10,000 conventioneers in 1985, making it the sorority's largest

"It will be a Grand Reunion of chapters, the first time we have ever tried to bring sorors who were intitiated in one chapter, later moving to an alumnae chapter in another part of the country, together with their original initiation group," Mrs. Canady said. The sorority is also revving up for a rousing celebration of its Diamond Jubilee in

The national president introduced Delta officials in her remarks, including New York author and Delta Paula Giddings, whose best selling new book about black women, "When and Where I Enter," so stirred the sorority's leadership that Mrs. Canady invited her to make the Delta regional conference circuit this summer to promote the

Delta national board members were taken on a tour of Dallas convention facilities, including the modern million-square foot Dallas Convention Center where the convention will be held. They were accompanied by local Delta planners headed by convention coordinators Sandra Malone, Deborah Fridia and Faye Williams, as well as Dallas Alumnae Chapter President Ella Johnson.

The mammoth Delta gathering will occupy 12 hotels. The Dallas Hyatt Regency will be the convention lead hotel.

Delta Executive Director Mary B. Hendrick, of Washington, D.C., where the sorority is headquartered. said attendance at Delta regional conferences this spring was up by 33 percent, breaking all previous records and arguing well for a larger than usual biennial convention.

Mrs. Canady cited a number of reasons to expect a banner Delta turnout.

"Deltas across the nation are excited about our forthcoming Diamond Jubilee and such major program initiatives as "Summitt II: In Support of Black Single Mothers." They are eager to move ahead on action programs to solve some of the problems single mothers face," Mrs. Canady declared. Delta is now in the process of preparing for publication Summitt II proceedings, reports of the 42 local summit conferences

In addition, much of the 125,000 Delta national membership is concentrated in the South Atlantic states and the Dallas location is very

accessible to it, she added. The 37th Delta convention of August 1983, in Detroit, drew nearly 6,000 members and families and the sorority's homecoming 36th gathering in August 1981, in Washington, D.C. where it was founded at Howard University, was attended by more than 8,000, then a

record number. Delta Sigma Theta, the nation's single largest black women's organization, has more than 712 chapters throughout the U.S. and overseas. Its rolls include such well-known women as the late Mary McLeod Bethune, former Congresswomen Barbara Jordan and Shirley Chisholm, and singer Lena Horne.



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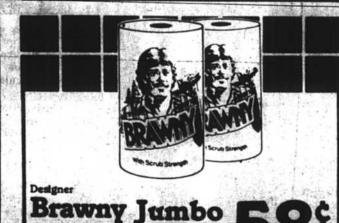
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