



# SOUTH SUBURBAN CHICAGO CHAPTER *Newsletter*

**September 2017**

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## President's Letter

Dear South Suburban Chicago  
Chapter Members,

August 29th marked my first 100 days as President and it was a busy time. This summer as we celebrated the success of our previous year's work and we also experienced many learning opportunities. Some of the lessons were positive, and some...

well, a "do-over" would be nice. But something that remained constant was our commitment to our Jack and Jill family.



This summer I was constantly reminded of our theme for this term; "On FIRE for South Suburban!" I chose this theme because I was and am fully sold on South Suburban members as "Diamonds." Most natural diamonds are made when carbon atoms are transformed while traversing the extremely high temperature (fire) of Earth's mantle. Fire gives diamonds the strongest bonds, highest hardness, and greatest ability to hold heat than any material. So, can you see how when we are "On FIRE" for South Suburban we become stronger members?

FIRE stands for:

**FEARLESSLY** – Be unafraid to be you and express your thoughts and ideas. You may have what everyone needs.

**INNOVATING** –What's next... Even the best ideas need tweaking as years or decades pass. New ideas like new people keep us fresh, excited and engaged.

**RESPECTFULLY** – Do you believe in your ideas? Guess what, the mother next to you believes in hers as well. Cooperate and work together to get the best result for the whole.

**EXECUTING** - Get it done! This is when South Suburban Shines! When we are all in we put on superior programs. Everyone sees us and many try to imitate us.

Much Love,  
Dr. Tonya Coats,  
President  
South Suburban Chicago Chapter of  
Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated

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## **Jack and Jill Day - September 30, 2017**

JJSSCC will join the Windy City and Western Cook County Chapters at Soldier Field from 12- 3:30 for our annual Jack and Jill Day event! Come out and enjoy the 20th Chicago Football Classic (GRAMBLING vs CLARK ATLANTA)! There will be fun activities for ALL ages (Game Truck, Face Painting, Games), as well as a College Fair onsite at Soldier Field Gate #6 from 9-12 (no additional parking fee for attending the college fair and tailgating) The cost for JJSSCC families is \$40, which includes entry to the VIP section ticket and a fabulous catered lunch). Guest tickets are \$45 and parking is \$25. Come kick off the year JJSSCC style! Payment can be made at the Chapter Retreat (9/16) or via [Eventbrite](#).

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# Save the Date

## *Splendor of the Season*

**A Jack and Jill Holiday Celebration**



**Sunday, December 3, 2017**

**Olympia Fields Country Club  
2800 Country Club Drive  
Olympia Fields, IL 60461**

**1p to 5p**

Join the families of Jack and Jill South Suburban Chicago Chapter  
as we celebrate the Splendor of the Holiday Season  
with family and friends

**Jack and Jill SSCC Goes to On the Hill**



President Tonya Coats and Legislative Chair Nichole Patton traveled to the On the Hill Legislative Summit in Washington, DC, Sept. 9-12. Our fearless leaders took part in this national initiative which seeks to demonstrate that Jack and Jill of America, Inc. is a "viable African-American organization that brings substantive and legitimate issues to Congressional leaders for their review and consideration." Members and teens presented Jack and Jill of America's legislative agenda to elected officials, visited Capitol Hill, participated in workshops and a town hall, and discussed the State of the African American Family.

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## Chaplain's Corner



Greeting Fabulous Mothers of JJSSCC!

"Have faith & believe in yourself and your abilities, with boundless vision, determination, motivation and dedication anything is achievable." -Unknown

Last school year, I found myself in constant prayer over our children, for various reasons. Although we pray together as a family, before leaving the house each day, this year I have added a new routine that I want to share with you. Since they are constantly on their phones, I thought I would leverage it for my own use. The above quote is one that I sent them at the beginning of the school year. I have stated sending them quotes or encouraging bible texts throughout the week, as a

reindeer that I am cheering them on, even when I am not around! Some of you may already do this, or something similar, but if not, I recommend that you incorporate this small gesture into your routine. I know we all love our children, but just like you like to hear you are loved and receive encouragement, and so do they!

I will be praying for each of your families this year, but I will place special emphasis on our children. The world we live in is full of craziness and our children are exposed to much more than we were at their age. As a result, I will be asking God to put a hedge of protection around them that the devil cannot penetrate! If there is something specific you would like for me to pray for, whether for you, your children, or anything else, please let me know. If you have “unspoken” request, just tell me...God knows all the details, so you don’t have to feel obligated to provide them to me. Finally, if you would like to just pray together, please know I am ALWAYS here for that! In the meantime, just know that I am lifting up the JJSSCC and our leaders. I am looking forward to the blessings we will be rewarded with in the 2017-2018 program year!

Susette M Lunceford  
Chaplain, 2017-2018

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## Kudos Corner - International Edition



Super teen, Alec Dinwiddie, journeyed to Ghana this summer as part of the Kappa League Chicago's Summer Abroad program. Alec took part in a 5-week community service mission trip that included painting and cleaning a local school in Accra, teaching English to local children, learning Fante-spoken in his host home and Twi-spoken in the general Ghana population, as well as taking tours around the cities of Accra and Kumasi.



VIVA LA CUBA!! The Wright Family (Terrence, Alison, Wynton, and Miles) traveled to Santiago de Cuba, Havana, Punta Frances, and Cienfuegos this summer as part of Jack and Jill's Afro-Cuban Cultural Excursions. Jack and Jill moms (and their families) came from all across the United States to learn about Afro-Cuban history and take part in specialized service activities to benefit the region.

## Featured Activity - Groups 1 and 2 - "Fun Day in the City"



This July Groups 1 and 2 enjoyed a "Fun Day in the City" for their first activity hosted by Mother Members LaTosha Mayes and Kimberly Mitchell. The groups

took the Metra train downtown, and embarked upon a scavenger hunt for Chicago icons en route to the Chicago Architecture Foundation. At CAF, everyone listened to a reading of the book, "Twenty-One Elephants," and built bridges to see how many elephants their own bridges could withstand. The groups then walked to Shake Shack for lunch, and marked off more scavenger hunt finds along the way. The day concluded with a trip to the Bean and play time at Maggie Daley Park.



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Do you have information or news to share with our chapter?

If you'd like to contribute to the monthly JJSSCC newsletter, please send your information to [editor@jackandjillsscc.com](mailto:editor@jackandjillsscc.com).



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Flossmoor, IL 60422

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