

FLORIDA DAYS 2016
"IT'S A CAPITOL IDEA"

Ya'll come back now, ya' hear? Yes, ma'am, you can bet we will! Those were the parting words from the members of Tarsus Temple No. 161 as we left Tallahassee, Florida Sunday morning.

Florida Days 2016 was hosted by the smallest Temple in Florida with a membership of 60!!!! They are the third youngest Temple in all of Nile. This was the first time they have ever hosted our annual state convention. ...AND, it was WONDERFUL!

Yesirree! It WAS a "Capitol Idea" INDEED! Members of nine of the eleven Florida Temples converged on Tallahassee Thursday to gather for our annual Florida Days Convention. (We truly missed the ladies from Nahum and Nyla Temples.) We were invited to the top of our State Capitol building for an evening of food, fun and fellowship. I am sure many of those present had never been there before either. We had music and dancing and witnessed one of the most beautiful sunsets you have ever seen. Many were taking photos as the Florida sun sank slowly in the West over the beautiful campus of the Florida State University. Yes, it was warm but it IS September in Florida and that is what to expect. How wonderful it was to greet our friends from around the state and those who were visiting. What an amazing view of our capitol city in all of its Southern splendor! It truly was "A Stroll Down Memory Lane."

The weekend was dedicated to the memory of the first Queen of Tarsus Temple, Bobbie Holliway. Bobbie Murray, Queen, paid a lovely tribute to "the first Bobbie" at the conclusion of the Ceremonial. Such a special touch it was, too.

The theme was carried throughout the entire weekend. First, we had our "Southern Charm" luncheon on Friday where we were all officially greeted and welcomed. Our "Under the Canopy" brunch, complete with delicious grits, sausage gravy and biscuits, was held Saturday morning. Yummy! Yummy! The "Sweet Magnolia" banquet Saturday evening completed the food events. Lovely ladies in antebellum gowns, picture hats, long gloves and parasols strolled the floor. Souvenir photos were taken in front of a backdrop of graceful Tallahassee oaks dripping in Spanish moss. It just doesn't get any better than that!

The ladies from Tarsus Temple and their helpers from other Temples, many of whom are charter dual members, assisted with the events. Table favors, decorations, ditty bags crammed with all sorts of fun and useful items, magnolia corsages, trolley rides to and from the hotels and the offer of Pedi cabs at the front door are just some of the things they are to be congratulated for. Of course, we had the marketplace to shop and visit and spend money. We did an excellent job of that as well.

The hospitality room seemed to never close and offered yummy food of all sorts. One item was the BEST pound cake you ever stuck a tooth in!

Athaliah Temple No. 114 had a bus-load from Orlando attend. Other Temples came in large groups, with matching outfits and tremendous enthusiasm. The Unit performances following the banquet were most entertaining and diversified. We had several ladies present over 90 years young and there were some in wheel chairs and on walkers or using canes! Nothing ever stops a dedicated Daughter of the Nile!

The Ceremonial found us all dolled up and witnessing the initiation of six new Princesses. That makes some thirteen new members for Tarsus thus far this year! Congratulations! Their Supreme Queen's visit will be the icing on the cake for their number of new initiates and Ceremonials. How is YOUR Temple doing?

Queen Bobbie Murray, as only she can, presided with all of her dignity and Southern grace. The officers are to be congratulated for a job well done!

Three of the four Past Supreme Queens from Florida were present; Past Supreme Queens Ginger Franklin, Alyce Thomas and Laura Richardson. Joyce Kincaid, Past Supreme Queen, was absent due to illness and was sorely missed, but we know she was there in spirit, as was dual member Betty Nohle, Past Supreme Queen.

Shirley Henley, Supreme Princess Tirzah, was buzzing around everywhere enjoying herself and peddling her wares. She is working hard raising funds for her Supreme Convention in a few years and the ladies loved getting to know her. The other visitors from out-of-state were welcomed most warmly and we were very pleased to have them present. There were some amazing opportunities to own items given away. What a super event!

Yes, indeed, Daughters of the Nile is doing well and prospering in the State of Florida. As Membership Chairman AND a Floridian, I am truly proud of Tarsus Temple No. 161 and offer them my sincere congratulations for a job well done!

You, too, can organize State Days in your areas. We already have, along with Florida Days - Texas Days, Northeast Days, North/West Daze and Southern Days.

It WAS "A Capitol Idea" and just could not have been better!
You bet your bippy we'll be back!

THANK YOU, TALLAHASSEE AND TARSUS TEMPLE NO. 161

Alyce Thomas, Past Supreme Queen, Chairman, Supreme Temple Membership and Public Relations Committee