Central Area Vice-Presidents' Chat
Conference Call, April 8, 2014

Scheduled Start Time: 7:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time
Actual Start Time: 7:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time

Link Glenda Masingale Manson CAVD, Central Illinois (IL)
Good evening ladies. Our sister Links it is 7:00 p.m. and welcome to our April Vice Presidents' Chat. According to the instructions, we gave people a little time to get here, so we can start on time and hopefully end on time. I would like to remind you to please put your phones on mute. The background noise from your home and cars can be very distracting, and we are not able to hear very clearly. So, if you do not have your phone on mute, please do so now.

If you have had a chance to look over the agenda, I would like to know if you have any additional. If not, I like it to stand as it is and we can move forward. Are there any additions? [No additions] I am going to move to the Linkspiration. Link Dara Davis from the Shelby County TN chapter has decided to provide that for us this afternoon. Link Dara?

***Linkspiration*: Link Dara Davis, Shelby County (TN):**
Good evening, my sister Links. I want to share with you a *Linkspiration* shared with my chapter, Shelby County chapter, by our chaplain, Link Sherila Jones Tuggle. When I heard it, I immediately knew that I wanted to share it with you, my fellow VP Link sisters.

> **"New Life from a Good Foundation"**
> "As we look to Easter and the triumphant of Christ, we can't help being thankful for the giving of new life from a good foundation. As I listen to your voices, all women, my Link sisters, some charter members, some new members, some seasoned, some young, I know that we all can't help but be thankful for the giving of new life from a good foundation. The first birth: The best foundation, new energy impacting, and inspiring the lives of others. Eternal life: God given life moves up. We cannot receive it, consume it, and be still. It makes us move. It moves and inspires us. We may move physically, mentally, emotionally, and/or spiritually, but we must move. Link sisters, today we honor our foundation. We honor our dear departed Link sisters. We honor our alumnae members. We cannot help, but be thankful for their movement and inspiration in our lives so that we continue to move and inspire others and make history. Link sisters, I want you to conscientiously commend and thank another woman who has made a difference in your life. Say to her, 'I thank God for the woman that you were, that you are, and that you will be. I thank God that you are fearfully and wonderfully made. I thank God for the new life he has given you.' Link sisters, say this to the lady in your mirror." I'd like to leave you with the following poem:
>
> **"The Woman in the Glass"**
> by Dale Windrow
>
> When you get what you want as your struggle for self
> And the world makes you queen for a day,
> Just go to the mirror and look at yourself,
> And see what that woman has to say.
>
> For it isn't your father or mother or husband
> Who's judgment upon you must pass;
> The person whose verdict counts most in your life
> Is the one staring back from the glass.

She's the person to please, never mind all the rest,
For she's with you clear up to the end.
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test
If the woman in the glass if your friend.

You may fool the whole world down the pathway of life,
And get pats on your back as you pass.
But your final reward will be heartache and tears
If you've cheated the woman in the glass

God bless you, my Link sisters.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Link Dara, that was beautiful. Thank you so much. And, my sisters, as you know each of our meetings are recorded, so a copy of that wonderful Linkspiration will be shared with each of you. Thank you, again, Link Dara.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson CAVD:
I would like to give a recap of the Presidents' Chat that was held on Sunday, April 6. For those of you who have not had a chance to interact with your chapter presidents at this time, it will be just a brief overview, but I will make sure that if there is something in more detail that you would like to have, please let me know and I will make sure that you got it.

First of all, and I'd like to acknowledge all of the Link sisters who were noticed and recognized in the Links Spotlight, distributed by the National Headquarters last Monday.

APPOINTMENTS

Link Linda Alexander
Renaissance (MI) Chapter
Link Linda was recently appointed to serve as chief clinical officer of Total Health Care.

Link Suzanne Shank Burks
Great Lakes (MI) Chapter
Link Suzanne became the first African-American woman to head a publicly traded financial services institution, when she assumed the role of acting CEO of Siebert Financial Corporation and CEO of Siebert Brandford Shank & Co. LLC.
http://goo.gl/wF5pmy

Link Georgia L. Hampton
Louisville (KY) Chapter
Link Georgia has been appointed as director of Compliance and Investigations for Jefferson County Public Schools in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Link Jenell R. Ross
Dayton (OH) Chapter
Link Jenell was recently named chairwoman of the American International Automobile Dealers Association. In assuming this role, she became the first African American and the second woman to hold the position in the organization's 43-year history.
http://goo.gl/W86deC

ACCOLADES

Link Paula Allen-Meares
Ann Arbor (MI) Chapter
Link Paula was honored with the Dr. King/President Johnson Faith in Politics: Game Changer Award at the PUSH Excel Martin Luther King, Jr. 24th Annual Scholarship Celebration.
http://goo.gl/LTa00e

Link Margot James Copeland
National President
Cleveland (OH) Chapter
Link Margot was recently named by The Network Journal as one of the 25 Influential Black Women in Business. Link Margot was also named to Savoy Magazine's list of Top 100 Most Influential Blacks in Corporate America.
http://goo.gl/Uf90Nk

Link Linda D. Forte
Renaissance (MI) Chapter
Link Linda was recently named by The Network Journal as one of the 25 Influential Black Women in Business.

Link Marcia L. Fudge
Cleveland (OH) Chapter
Link Marcia recently received the American Voice Award for her work in arts education from Arena Stage theater.
http://goo.gl/SAspUl

Link Laysha Ward
Minneapolis-St. Paul (MN) Chapter
Link Laysha was recently named to Savoy Magazine's list of Top 100 Most Influential Blacks in Corporate America.
http://goo.gl/Uf90Nk

Link KaMara White
Greater Kansas City (MO) Chapter
Link KaMara was recently chosen as one of Kansas City's 2014 Rising Stars by ThisIsKC.
http://goo.gl/jtdKiw

BOOK RELEASES

Link Donna Bunch Coaxum
West Towns (IL) Chapter
Link Donna has written a new book titled, “Dear Wives, Your Husbands Want A Girlfriend Too.”
www.marketreadysister.com

Congratulations to all of our Link sisters. I know that you all can read, but I like actually having the names called out so each of the chapter that are present on the call will know that we are reading, acknowledging, and uplifting our sisters that have been recognized in our documents.

The reminder was given to all of the presidents to share any topics that they would like to include in the president’s workshops at the National Assembly. Link Alice has asked that ideas and suggestions are e-mailed to her. If you remember at the last chat, I asked for any suggestions that any of you may have for consideration for the workshops that will be held as far as membership is concerned not only for

National Assembly, but also for our Leadership Summit. Last weekend, starting on Friday, the Executive Planning Team met with the two chapters that will be our host chapters for the 2014 Leadership Summit, which will be held in Merrillville, IN. Link Denise Gardner submitted to me in writing some suggestions that could be used, not only for the National Assembly, but also for any of our workshops that we may have. Link Denise is from the Chicago Chapter, and I texted her over the weekend to let her know that her suggestions were received with great enthusiasm, and will be shared as we move toward the October Leadership Summit. One of the main suggestions that Link Denise put in writing was that at times when we go to National Assembly and some area conferences, we are given an overview or the long view of some of the major programs that we are working on, whether it is bullying or obesity. And, what she would like to see are the nuts and bolts of implementing, not only stellar programing, but discussions on fundraisers. How do chapters conduct cotillions, are they considered still relevant? How do they fit into chapters who are holding them? She gave over ten suggestions, and they were roundly accepted. I thank her, and also remind you that if you have any suggestions, please e-mail them to me.

Link Alice reminded everyone, again, the request of our six Link sisters to work hard to elect a minimum of 17 Democratic individuals to return America to the people. Those Link sisters were the speakers at the Leadership Summit last fall. They spoke very passionately about how our President is being held hostage by Congress that's not working with him. The reminder is that all chapters please be engaged in your community before the 2014 election cycle.

For The Links National elections, we are encouraging each delegate and alternate to be prepared. Read the materials, candidate profiles, and candidate brochures for yourself. Do not let negative and untrue propaganda that is going around make or influence your decision. Make sure that your chapter members read the credentials of each candidate to assist them in their deliberation and guidance to your delegate. Central Area is a strong and forward thinking part of The Links, Incorporated. Yet, there have been only four Links elected from our area to the highest two offices throughout the past 67 year history of the organization. You know that we have highly qualified candidates, so when you are making your decisions, look at the Links' work and the Links' experience of the candidates and make sound decisions based on the facts. We have two Central Area Links sisters running for office; one for the office of National Vice President and the other for National Nominating Chairperson. Link Alice has stated to the presidents that she would love to see us as a united force as an area in support of our two candidates as we elect new officers for our organization. The delegates will decide who will lead us over the next few years. It's an awesome responsibility. Please make sure that our leaders have The Links knowledge, skills, ability, and experience to do that job.

Under the Scott Hopkins Leadership Institute, candidates have been recommended, and we had a total of 13 from the Central Area. Our area director can only recommend 10, and at this point, Link Margot has recommended one who falls from the Central Area. National Headquarters will be contacting the successful nominees by letter. A reminder also to contact Link Desma Coleman if your chapter is interested in host a revive fundraiser weekend; The Links Revive Boutique. The Frankford/Lexington Chapter will kick-off the first boutique the week of May 15–18. Right now, we are excited as an area because six chapters in the Detroit area met in March to discuss hosting a joint boutique this summer. This is a wonderful way for us to continue to build our HBCU Scholarship funds, and not always have to request funds from chapters and members. So, if you have the opportunity to host a boutique in your community, please consider that.

Link Alice also told the presidents, as a thought, that as the budget year for the 2013-2014 ends, and funds are remaining in your chapter treasury, consider donating them to the Central Area HBCU Endowed Scholarship Fund. The goal for 2015, at the Central Area Conference is $200.000 to increase the endowment of each HBCU to a minimum of $25,000 each. We as an area are not half way there at this point. She is asking for the chapters' assistance to reach our goal and remember to include the

scholarship program in your budgets for donations prior to the 2015 Central Area Conference in Cincinnati.

The Presidents' Chat, of course, included a moment from our Area Secretary, our Area Treasurer, our Program Chairs, Link Monica Allen and Link Vicki Brooks, our P.R. and Communications Moment by Link Kathy Wade. Link Kathy apologizes because she is having a Team 69 meeting tonight at the same time as ours, so we will make sure that we don't hold her up. For those of you who have to leave to attend that meeting, it is understood. The Area Vice Directors will be the gatekeepers for the Jeopardy Workshop. So, for a little fun in your chapter meetings before the end of the year do some studying on some of the information that we should know, but we may not necessarily know, as far as Links culture and history in general.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson CAVD:
Tonight I am so excited that we have a special guest for our Central Area Vice Presidents' Chat. And that individual is Naia Wood, who a number of us have spoken to on several occasions. I know I can go on and on about how wonderful Naia is to us as our Central Area Membership Coordinator, but I'm just going to be quiet her. Naia are you on the line?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: I am on the line. Thank you.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Glad you could join us.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Thanks for having me. It's a pleasure.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Absolutely. I want you to know that I went out to our vice presidents and asked them to submit questions for you. I have 10. However, if there are any after we have gone through this initial listing and there is still time, I would love for you to answer them. So, I will be your host tonight. How about that?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Sounds great.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Absolutely. I'd like to ask you what are some of the most common questions that you receive, and where can those answers be found in regards to membership?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: I would say that the top three questions would probably be:

- **When are the dues due?**
    - This can be found in the *Manual of Procedures*, page 30. It tells you the dates, and it also tells you about the late fees due period. And the penalty involved in paying your dues after April 1. The dues are due by April 1. The link goes live online on happens online on March 1, so you can pay them as early as March 1, however they can be submitted without penalty up until 11:59 p.m. on April 1. April 2 – May 1 is the late dues period, and any dues received between April 2 and May 1 will automatically incur the $25 late fee per organization, which would be a total of $50 extra per member who is paying after April 1.
- **How much are the dues?**
    - This is always found on the *Summary of Dues and Fees*. It's a one-page document in the documents section. We update it every year by the fiscal year. It actually gets put online right around the same time of the September mailing that we send out, typically the last week in August. So, you will always be able to find and review the *Summary of Dues and Fees* for the upcoming fiscal year as early as September 1. September 1 this year the

Summary of Dues and Fees should be available for the 2015- 2016 fiscal year. It gives you a breakdown on the regular active member dues as well as the new member dues.

- **When is my next one-in-five?**
    - A lot of members are under the impression that the one-in-five period starts over when you attend an area conference or a national assembly, and that is not the case. The years are actually set, the periods are set, and any member who was inducted in the year 2000, or prior to are all following the same schedule and the same cycle with the same deadline. That goes for your 2013 as well as your 2014 new members. They are also in the same cycle; the current cycle which is 2013-2017. There is actually a document that is also in the documents section in the membership sub-folder in the documents sections. And it's called *The National Assembly and Area Conference Attendance Period*. So, again, we are all in the same period right now; 2013-2017. If you attended a conference in 2008 to satisfied the last period, then you have until 2017 to attend it for the next period. It does not reset. That document will always be updated and available online.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: All right, thank you. When there is a membership issue or concern that is specific to our Area and is not found in the membership manual, who would you like the vice president or president to call first?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: If it is a membership issue within the chapter, then the chapter should always contact their area vice director or vice area director, whichever one would be for the Central Area, you. If it's a membership issue or a membership concern that's something regarding a National ruling or National by-law, they can contact me. Either way, they can contact me. If they contact me and not you, I will then determine if it's something you should answer or if it's something I can respond to. And just for the record, chapter issues, if you will, or grievances, or misunderstandings, or anything that needs clarity at the chapter level, I am not at liberty to weigh in on. I will always refer it to the area vice director.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: All right. When is the deadline for a member to be able to transfer her membership?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: The request can be submitted as early as May1. The transfer period is May 1 – December 1 of each year. We would have to receive the transfer request by e-mail or fax no later than December 1. If mailed, it should be post marked no later than December 1. Any transfer request that we receive between May 1up 'til December 1, we will process. There is actually a 30-day cap on the president to respond, and that could make a difference in if it gets processed. The chapter president has 30-days to respond whether that response is saying the member can't transfer for whatever reason or it's responding with a signature. All transfer requests must be submitted directly to your membership specialist's attention. In the Central Area it's me. They should not go through the chapter. You do not have to send it to your chapter president or your vice president. It should come directly to me. I will review it and filter out as necessary to your current and receiving president.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Okay, thank you. Can you tell me the last day for monies to be sent to Nationals for a new member?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: The new member dues deadline is actually 35 days prior to the induction day. So, that would vary. There is no set date as it is for active members. For National dues, if your induction date is May 1, then you should have electronically submitted your new member dues and fees on or around March 25. There is a whole entire process behind and before having that payment link go live for the new member. So, depending on what's going on in-house the payment link might not be available on March 25. However, we always notify the chapters' presidents and vice

presidents, and treasurers in writing via an e-mail blast of the next step and a general time frame in which the payment link will be available for new members. There is no penalty or late fee related to the new member fees or submission or not submitting it on time. However, membership and National Headquarters base everything on the induction date. So, again, if your induction date is June 30, then your dues and fees should be paid on or around April 25, but we base sending the new member materials based on your induction date. We typically send out the materials at least 14 days prior to your induction. If you do not make that payment at least two weeks prior to your induction date, you likely will not receive your materials in time for your induction.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Are the fees for membership changed every year?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: They are not. The regular member dues have not changed since 2009. For new members they have not changed in the last several years. There was a $12 increase this fiscal year, and that was because of the cost incurred for the publication of the new history book that's still being revised, and will be ready over the summer. FYI, the history books will not be a part of your new member package. The new member package will include the new member certificate, a welcome letter from our National Vice President and our National President, as well as instructions on accessing the National Web site's Members Only section, which will include each new member's username and password. We do ask that you all are sure to disseminate this information to the candidates at their induction or immediately following it. It is information that they will need and should have. We send that to whatever home address we have on file for the chapter president unless otherwise requested. If a chapter vice president e-mails me and asks me to send it directly to them that can be arranged.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Okay, thank you. I'm having a problem logging on into the Member's Only section of the Web site. Are you the person that can help me with this problem?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: I absolutely can. 90% of the login cases are typically just because the member does not have her username and password. There are rear occasions when she has the correct one and for whatever reason it is not working. You should always start out by e-mailing me directly or you can call me and I will provide you with that information.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Okay. The next question is I keep requesting a new card (I guessing this is the membership card) and it has never come. Why?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: I cannot say for sure in this specific instance, however, there is a process for ordering a new card. We do not create the cards in-house. We have a vendor that we go to. Unfortunately, right now we have not found a vendor who is willing to do orders under a certain quantity. So right now, for the past several years, we only order cards once a year, which is immediately following the intake period. We typically send the order off in mid towards the end of June. That means, any orders that I receive, let's say mid-June – the beginning of June the following year, goes on a spreadsheet. There is an order form online and a fee of $10 per organization. So, once you complete that order form and mail it in with your check or money order, it is processed through our accounting department, and your name is added to a replacement card spreadsheet. However, as I said, depending on when you order it, it could take up to a year to get it. If you order it May, then you would get it pretty fast because the orders go in June. Once we send the order to the vendor it takes about four to six weeks for processing, and they mail it directly from their company. So, we don't see them unless it's returned mail and it comes back to us.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Okay. The next question is can you give an example of a condition that may affect a transfer process?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: If they are asking if it affects the processing time, I can speak to that. Affecting the transfer process, it could be a financial reason. If you chapter assessments or dues are not up to date, the chapter president may not sign the request. She may not agree for the member to transfer until she has satisfied her chapter dues or assessments. That is really the only reason I know of at the chapter level that a transfer request would be held up, and that would be after the member has been sent it to me, and I sent it to their current chapter president. As far as timing, all members requesting a transfer have to update their profile current/new physical mailing address. If you submit a transfer and everybody signed off on it, we cannot change your chapter over. If you move from Indianapolis to Maryland, we cannot change your chapter over in the system, if you still have an Indianapolis address or Indiana address. And at the National level, if you have not submitted your National dues, or your service hours, of course if you are on leave, you want have service hours, but if you have been an active member for that fiscal year and you do not have your service hours or paid your National dues, that would prevent you from transferring.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Okay. The next question is what are the National dues for active members and members on leave? Do you get that question a lot?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: I do, quite often. Let me say this, the dues for all members are the same. They do not vary based on your membership category. The dues for active members, advisory members, affiliate members, and members on leave are the same. They have to the same deadlines and they have the same late fee penalty if they are not paid by April 1. The dues amount for The Links, Incorporated are currently $175.00. The dues amount for The Links Foundation $85.00. That's a total of $260.00. If you pay after April 1, it would go up to a total of $310.00 for both organizations, which includes the $25 late fee, which is per organization.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Now, I think this is a fun question. Naia, are you a Link?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: I am not a Link. I am a part of the staff. I have been for several years. Actually, tomorrow will make five years that I have worked for The Links, Incorporated National Headquarters.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Well, congratulations on your anniversary, and, I want you to know that we are very fortunate to have you as our Membership Specialist. And, I don't know about you ladies, but I've never had a situation problem, challenge, opportunity that Naia has not been able to help me with. Are there any other questions out there that Naia can address while we have her on the line?

Link Regina Randall Peal, Columbus (OH): I just want to say that Naia is extremely efficient. She is so rapid in her response. I have just been in communication with her just an hour ago, and she responded to my question so quickly, it was within minutes. And, I just want to say that I so enjoy working with you.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Thank you, so much.

Link Edna Varner, Chattanooga (TN): I want to ditto those comments. She answers immediately. I've only had to contact you a couple of times, but always immediately you answer, and I appreciate that.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Thank you, so much. You are absolutely welcome.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: This is a Central Area love fest for you Naia. And we want to tell you congratulations. Anyone else? Any other questions for Naia?

Link Anita Bridges, Oklahoma City (OK): I don't have a question for a. I sorry, but I just have to add my voice to those other two. a has been fantastic. Even when she was sick, she was responding to my inquiries and questions. I could tell from her voice on the phone that she was not feeling well, that she was not up to par. And, she admitted that she wasn't, but she was still there working and answering questions. And, I just want to say kudos to you Naia.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Thank you, so much.

Link Deborah Thomas, Madison Metropolitan (WI): I just have a quick question about the portal that will be available, once we start working on the intake, so that the materials will be accessible to the people who are learning about and going through orientation. Is that still going to happen?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Are you talking about the payment links?

Link Deborah Thomas, Madison Metropolitan (WI): No, the portal for information because they can't get access to some of the manuals and information that we normally get in hard copy or we have to make copies from the site.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Oh, yes, yes, yes. They are available online. Chapters do have to print those documents or manuals that they wish to provide to their new members. They have to print them own their own. We do not provide or even have any hard copies produced. We would print them the same way you would just by printing them. We don't have any hard copies.

Link Deborah Thomas, Madison Metropolitan (WI): I sorry. I though that way back the Headquarters was thinking about developing something on the Web site that the potential people could access for information while they are going through orientation. Or was that just something you all were thinking about that didn't happen. Did I dream it?

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: I actually did not hear about that. I do know that, as far as the document section goes of our Web site, new members can even have access until they have gone through induction.

Link Deidre Edwards, Cream City (WI): This is something we discussed on one of our calls, our VP chats about developing a portal on your chapter Web site. Instead of making copies of the huge membership orientation manual, you would allow your candidates to have access to the portal on your Web site.

Link Deborah Thomas, Madison Metropolitan (WI): Oh, thank you. Thank you so much. And Naia, I feel the same way about you as the rest of them. I had questions when I first started with some of these things. You were so calming and so reassuring. So, again, thank you for your service. We are luck and blessed to have you.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Thank you, so much.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: And Naia, this is going to end our Central Area love fest of your portion of the agenda. A warm virtual hug and handshake, and you will hear from the Central Area tomorrow in recognition of your anniversary. Thank you very much for taking the time tonight to share your knowledge with us. We really appreciate it.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: You are so welcome. Thank you for having me. I enjoyed it, and you ladies have a great evening and awesome rest of the week.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Thank you, so much, Naia.

Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator: Alrighty, take care.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson CAVD:
My Link sisters, the last thing that I have on the agenda to bring up to you, which was left out before I go around the virtual table is to make sure that at the bottom of your agendas that you remind your members of the important upcoming dates. This will also assist you as membership Chairs for there not to be so much confusion or questions about one-in-five.

FUTURE IMPORTANT DATES:

- National Assembly - July 1-5, 2014, Washington, DC, Gaylord National Resort Hotel
- Central Area Leadership Summit – October 24-26, Merrillville, Indiana, Radisson Hotel
- Central Area Conference - June 17-20, 2015, Cincinnati, Ohio, Westin and Hilton Hotels

At this time, I'd like to open up the floor for any questions or answers that you would like to share, or any announcements that you would like to share for the good of the order.

Link Adrienne Green, Toledo (OH): I heard Naia talk about the history book, and that it won't be in the package. But, I don't think I understood the answer because it is listed on the fees sheet that is on the Web site as an item that they are paying for.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: I think she said that it would not be ready, so it will not be included in the package for this incoming group. If you question, Link Adrienne is would they receive it after it is completed, I would say yes. But, if you would send Naia an e-mail and cc me, we can get the answer, and I can make sure all of the vice presidents have the same answer.

Link Adrienne Green, Toledo (OH): Okay, thank you because it was communicated to our new members that that was part of the fees. And, I know she will answer timely as she always does.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Thank you very much. Are there any other questions or good news announcements?

Link Kimberly Post, Memphis (TN): I just want to let everybody know that the Memphis Chapter had a write up in The Links magazine that went out earlier this month on our chapter Friendship Circle. It is something we've been doing for the past couple of years. It's one of our best practices for encouraging friendship in the chapter. We had the article in the magazine and also with the article in our chapter was a picture that was taken at a cluster even. So, this year we did a cluster event with the other two chapters in the Memphis area; the River City Chapter and the Shelby County Chapter. And, so the picture was from that cluster. I just wanted to let everybody know because I was really excited that we were in there and the picture from the cluster was in there also.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Congratulations, Link Kim. And please give our warm congratulations to your chapter for us.

Link Celeste Shelton-Harris, Kalamazoo (MI): Since we are talking about our recent publication of Linked. I wanted to bring attention to one of our chapter members who was in the "Take Note" section. It is La June Montgomery Tabron who is the President and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Company.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Congratulations. And please give Link La June our congratulations also.

Link Regina Randall Peal, Columbus (OH): I just wanted to note my chapter member and also one of the Links who sponsored me Link Patricia Larkins Hicks. She had a number of items featured in the new magazine also. And we are very, very proud of her.

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Well, if you are in the Central Area, and you've ever been caught in the rays of Link Patricia Larkins Hicks' radiant smile. We are always proud of her, so please give her our best also.

Link Anita Bridges, Oklahoma City (OK): If one has missed some of the Vice Presidents' Chat, how do I access the missed chats?

Link Glenda Masingale Manson, CAVD: Well, we have wonderful Link sister who is a vice president and also an Area representative, Link Veronica Chapman from the Cream City Chapter in Ohio. Link Veronica are you on the line? I wanted to thank you and also this is a great forum, and also to answer Link Anita's question. Link Veronica has been very proactive. If you go out and register on the Central Area Web site, the Vice Presidents' Chat minutes are there. All you have to do is go out hit them and you can find out any of the past information and some of the subject matter that we have discussed. It is because of Link Veronica, and I thank you very much, Link Veronica.

Roll Call: Link Glenda Masingale Manson CAVD
All right Ladies, it is 7:53 and I'd like to take role. And because poor Youngstown is the picked on as the last chapter, I'm going to start with them first.

There were 43 chapters present on the conference call.

In attendance: Links Glenda Masingale Manson CAVD; Naia Wood, Central Area Membership Coordinator; Link Janice Beachum, Youngstown (OH); Link Linda King, Ann Arbor, (MI); Link Susan Buford, Archway (MO); Link Barb Adkins, Central Illinois (IL); Link Eva Ledbetter, Charleston-Institute (WV); Link Celeste Shelton-Harris, Kalamazoo (MI); Link Deidra Edwards, Cream City (WI); Link Deborah Thompson, Madison Metropolitan (WI); Link Kimberly Post, Memphis (TN); Veronica Chapman, Queen City (OH); Link Anita Bridges, Oklahoma City (OK); Link Regina Randall Peal, Columbus (OH); Link Adrienne Green, Toledo (OH); Link Dara Davis, Shelby County (TN); Link Lillian Johnson, Dayton (OH); Link Paula Jones, Lake Shore (IL); Link Amy Parker, Greater Wayne County (MI); Link Vanessa Washington, Huntington (WV); Link Larnell Burkes-Bagley, Indianapolis (IN); Link Melonie Jones, Jackson County (MO); Link Avis Reid, Knoxville (TN); Link Jacqueline Lewis, South Suburban Chicago (IL*);* Link Lisa Ingram, Tri-City (MI); Link Michelle Gentry Anderson, Tulsa (OK); Link Edna Harper, Springfield (OH);
Link Dianne Engram, West Towns (IL); Mary Fields, Frankfort/Lexington (KY); D'Anne Shelton, St. Louis (MO); Link Shelley Hamler, Cincinnati (OH); Link Veronica Murff, Great Lakes (MI); Link Dana Thompson, Hoffman Estates (IL); Link Nancy Matthews, Louisville (KY); Link Carolyn Qualls, Parthenon (TN); Link Lisa Ingram, Tri-City (MI); Link Martha Bester, Twin Rivers (OH); Pat Rowles, Greater Kansas City (MO); Nailah Byrd, Western Reserve (OH); Link Arlene Burk, Greater Chicago (IL); Link Barbara Thompson Smith, Southern (WV); Link Annie Montgomery, Wichita (KS); Link Glenda Overstreet, Topeka (KS); Link NaShawnda Ballard Thomas, River City (TN); Link Helen Gordon, Kent Area (OH); Link Sheila January-Fort, Harbor Lites (IL);

Closing Remarks: Link Glenda Masingale Manson CAVD
The minutes will be transcribed just as quickly as possible. The attendance will also be placed in the minutes. I thank you so much for your support my sisters. If there is anything I can help you with, I'm only an e-mail away. Have a great evening and Happy Easter Everyone!

End Time: 8:00:32 p.m.
Minutes transcribed for Link Sharon Gentry, Central Area Secretary, by Link Carol M. de la Cruz, Central Illinois (IL)