

Alpha Xi News

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Xi State

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

“Focus on the Real Common CORE: Cultivating Our Renewed Excitement”

Greetings!

Summer is here and we are planning for an exciting year for DKG. Our annual picnic will be held at Camp Jordan this year. This will be more centrally located and we hope for a good attendance. Those of us who attended Convention in June are rejuvenated and ready to go. Convention is an interesting mix of old and new just as DKG has become. Our international president Dr. Beverly Helms has asked us to consider how to "strengthen our organization to maintain our viability into the 22nd century". Why this question? Our international membership has decreased by one half in the past 20 years. We want to "cling to our own patterns" (as Dr. Annie Webb Blanton wrote in 1942) and yet realize that the "whole world has changed" due to the advent of new technology. Dr. Helms challenged DKG chapters and members to answer the question of continuing viability. How would you answer this question? How will our chapter respond to her challenge? We love who we are and where we have come from; but can we become more attractive and supportive to educators in our area. I look forward to your ideas and concerns during the next two years as we work to increase our viability as a chapter and a part of DKG International. Dr. Helms' article was in the DKG News May/June 2014 issue. Please take time to read this article.



Sincerely,
Denna James



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Alpha Xi Sets Record for Attendance at Xi State

Alpha Xi really turned out to support our Xi State President Beverly Smith at the 2014 Xi State Convention in June. We had eighteen members present, the most of any chapter in the state. We received a special certificate commemorating that achievement. The chapter also received the Gold Award for all of the work done by the chapter and out-going President Gail Huffstutler.

The convention began Thursday afternoon with the Executive Board meeting. Beverly presided over the session where chapter presidents and state committee chairs, along with state officers, accepted the changes in state by-laws and rules suggested by the Rules Committee, chaired by Jensi Souders. (Be sure to read the changes on the Xi State website) That evening after dinner, the first general session was held. During the session, Karen Phillips received the Order of the Rose and Julie Hughes sang. After that ceremony, everyone laughed until they cried at the speaker, Randall Taylor, former Summer Conference Director at the University of the South and no stranger to those who have attended the convention for years.

Friday morning was the second general session where the entire convention adopted the by-laws and rules changes. At the Awards Luncheon, we found out about our record attendance and our Gold Award. We also enjoyed the music of the chorus, led by Julie. There were more individual sessions after lunch, including one by our own Donna Lamkin, and shopping at the mini mall, where Donna and Jeanette Esch sold their wares. (Jeanette was also responsible for our chapter display and basket for the silent auction.) That evening we listened to the International Representative and International First Vice President Carolyn Pittman from Arkansas at the Presidents' Banquet, where our in-coming President Deana James was presented.

The convention concluded Saturday morning with the Ceremony of Remembrance, where our member Lynn Meyer was included and where Anna Harrington, Betty Julian, and Julie Hughes took part in the program. The final event was the delicious Birthday Brunch where we found out what our DKG IQ was. It was a very enjoyable weekend. Put the dates for next year, the first weekend of June, on your calendar now because we have the responsibility of the banquet!



Member Birthdays

July

1 Eloise Litz
7 Norma Cate
13 Marry Blackwell
13 Ann Pinion
15 Connie Howard
25 Janie Sue Massey

August

5 Marguerite Santich
7 Jeanette Burkhart-Esch
14 Betty Julian
15 Dorothy Bayless
15 Julie Hughes
15 Suzanne Rushworth

18 Pam Thompson
21 Maxine Williams
31 Betty Thomason





IMPORTANT DATES

- July 22 Potluck Picnic – Camp Jordan (E. Ridge) at 5pm
Submit new member recommendations
- July 28 – Aug 4 International Convention in Indianapolis
- August 26 Boy Scout Cabin – Hixson UMC
Speaker: Rachel Falu (S. Africa)
Vote on new members
- September 19-20 Creative Arts Retreat in Dunlap
- September 25 Reading Center (Chattanooga State – Brittany Davidson)
- October 18 Saturday -2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Beverly's Reception
- November TBA Area Council

CONCERNS

- JUDY LEACH'S MOTHER IS AT THE HOSPITAL AND HAS BEEN THERE SEVERAL DAYS WITH HER. HER MOTHER HAS A PROBLEM WITH HER SODIUM LEVEL AND HAS BEEN IN INTENSIVE CARE, BUT IS GETTING BETTER.
- RESERVE MEMBER, JANIE SUE MASSEY, HAD SOME TESTING AT THE HOSPITAL LAST WEEK.
- PAM THOMPSON CONTINUES TO RECUPERATE FROM A PAINFUL BACK SURGERY.
- ROSE DOVER'S PROCEDURE A FEW WEEKS AGO TO SHOCK HER HEART HAS EVIDENTLY TAKEN CARE OF HER SYMPTOMS OF ARTERIAL FIBRILLATION.
- NANCY BIBLER'S HUSBAND HAS RECENTLY HAD BACK SURGERY.



Do not forget to check out our new website!!!

<http://alphaxichattanooga.weebly.com/>



Order of the Rose
Karen Phillips



Betty Julian &
Julie Hughes



XI State



Beverly Smith & Carolyn Pittman



Additional News

- ✓ Harriet Bond received the Lydia award from Scenic City Women's Network.
- ✓ Diamond Kelly was accepted to the Leadership Fellows program with HCDE.
- ✓ Ernestine Eldridge was honored by her church for 60 years of dedication to the music program.
- ✓ Taffee Bishop welcomed a new baby boy, Ben Wilson.
- ✓ Pam Thompson is a member of the TEA Board of Directors.
- ✓ Jeanette Esch is in charge of the Sister Cities art exhibit.



Suzanne Rushworth and
Speaker Dr. June Scobee Rogers

