

**Alpha Kappa Chapter  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
60th Birthday Celebration  
June 27, 2019  
Submitted by Nikki Abels**

**Call to Order: 11:00 a.m.**

**Members in Attendance:** Ginny Densmore, Monica Hayes, Vikki Shackelford, Nikki Abels, Sandy Byars, Patti Casey, Delores Hudson, Felicia Jackson, Judy O'Steen, Lisa Phillips, June Townsend, Susan Vinson, Jean Williams, Rhonda Work, Gale Workman, Dawn James, Jo Anne Arnette, Anne Black, Patti Brownstein, Gina Daniels, Alice-Ann Darrow, Carole Jo Hardiman, Melanie Hester, Barbara Kelly, Connie Lewis, Melissa Olson, Nancy Rosenbaum, and Nancy Watson.

**Guests Attending:** Sharon Simmons - President Beta Phi; Linda Wunderly and Kathy Diesner - Co-District I Directors; Roxanne Jester - guest singer.

**Greetings:** Delores Hudson, Celebration Chair, opened the event with welcoming everyone and introducing our president, Nancy Watson, who presided over the event.

**Guest Recognition:** Nancy introduced the guests for today:

Anne Black who was initiated into AK in 1961, just two years after our charter.

Rhonda Work who was initiated in 1961 in Alpha Pi and transferred to AK in 1975.

Sharon Simmons, President of Beta Phi.

Linda Wunderly and Kathy Diesner, Co-District Directors.

Nancy also recognized Edna Owens and Barbara Savelle who were both initiated into AK in 1968, but were unable to attend today's luncheon.

**Opening Comments:** Nancy then welcomed everyone to the 60th "Diamond Anniversary" of the AK chapter. She remarked how wonderful it is that we have been able to stay together and grow over those 60 years. She then introduced Monica Hayes who spoke on the "Occasion." She gave a wonderful reflection on our 60 years. She spoke about how the 1960's were a decade of change and progress. Monica expressed her thanks to Gale Workman who invited her to join DKG, AK chapter. She has continued to appreciate the sisterhood and companionship she has experienced through the organization over the years. She also acknowledged the members as life long learners who still enrich lives. And congratulated all of us!

**Introduction of Entertainment:** Alice-Anne Darrow introduced Roxanne Jester. Roxanne is a graduate student in music therapy at FSU College of Music. She is a Tallahassee native and attended Florida Southern for her undergraduate degree. Roxanne entertained us with several songs. The most poignant was her last selection. . .The Rose.

**Program:** Nancy then introduced Gale Workman, Professor Emerita, FAMU, who is also an Independent Education Consultant and owner of Tighter Brighter Communication. Gale is the vice-president of AK. She presented the group with a wonderful program she entitled "We Stand on Their Shoulders". Twenty-three incredible women founded AK June 27, 1959. Gale researched every one of them and presented each one to us in a slide show. The information and pictures were wonderful and quite informative. Gale also took us down memory lane by adding in what was happening in the country and world during this time. She even provided a handout of what was happening in our own Tallahassee in 1959. Our founding members were truly a fascinating and incredible group of women. They were certainly quite influential and ahead of their time. It should be noted that a number of our current members expressed wonderful memories of several of these ladies. (A personal note from me....I wish I had been around to meet them.)

Gale thanked Connie for her display and Delores for the delicious cake. She closed with the program by telling us that today DKG is in 17 countries and has 65,000 members worldwide.

**Blessing and Lunch:** We then had our blessing and enjoyed a wonderful lunch and of course, the cake.

**Closing:** Nancy presented our gavel from 1974, which she had updated. She also spoke of the Pilot Club and scholarship house in Gainesville and the part she had in helping with that organization. She mentioned Helen Dean and Harriet McCarter, both were in Pilot Club with her and founding members of Alpha Kappa. She recognized the chair for the event, Delores Hudson. Delores shared her thought with us and thanked her committee for all their hard work.

(Again, a personal note) The event was incredible and I know I learned a lot from it. Thank you again to Delores and her incredible committee. You all did a wonderful job. Nancy also reminded the officers that we would have our planning meeting for next year in July. She encouraged the members to send any and all ideas they have for next year.

We officially closed the luncheon with our DKG song led by Ginny Densmore.

The luncheon was adjourned at 1:12 pm.