



# ALPHA PHI INFORMER

AUGUST, 2015

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## Jots from Jeni

Wow! What an interesting summer we've had! I hope yours has been fun and memorable. Jim and I have spent much of it at our condo in Florida, buying some furniture for it and some that we brought home for the living room. I hope you'll be at our meeting this Saturday, August 8, to try out the new (for us—they're used but don't look it) living room chairs!

Attending the Southeast Regional Conference in Savannah July 15-18 was inspiring and educational. I particularly enjoyed the free time when several of us ferried across the river to eat at some of the city's excellent restaurants (and a pub!). The buzz at the conference was all about coming to Nashville next July for international convention. I'll be talking to you about attending and volunteering for this wonderful event (I know how wonderful it will be because we hosted in 1994 in the same hotel!).

Our August meeting is always our best attended and I hope you will help us continue that tradition. We have a new baby to celebrate (Jessica Fulgham), an upcoming wedding (Christina Neighbors), a possible new project (partnering with the Girl Scouts), at least one promotion (Jessie Schmid) and many other things. Join us for fellowship, food, and friendship this Saturday at 10:00.

## Consider ...

What is one thing you can do this year to strengthen Alpha Phi Chapter? Will you (for example) be a hostess at a meeting? Improve your attendance by one meeting over last year? Contact one member who has dropped to encourage them to return? Read ALL of ALL the emails, Reminds, and newsletters? Write a book review for the newsletter? Think about what realistic personal goal or goals you can and will do this school year and be prepared to write them down at the meeting or send them to Jeni if you can't come to the meeting.

## Upcoming Events

### AUGUST MEETING

Our next meeting will be at Jeni Souder's house this Saturday! The meeting begins at 10 A.M. and will include brunch. Come and help us kick off our new year! Fun, food and news of each other!

Directions to Jeni's house: Take I-75 north to exit 10, the Ooltewah exit. Turn left and go under the interstate. Turn right at the light. Turn left at Publix on to Snow Hill Road. You will drive about 15 minutes out Snow Hill Road. When you cross a bridge, Savannah Shores subdivision will be on your left. Turn left there on to Twisting Creek. Jeni is the third mailbox on the left at 7622 Twisting Creek. Her phone number is 423-344-7120. Parking is limited in the driveway, so you may want to park on the road and walk down the driveway. Note: the driveway is not steep or long.

## It's Time for Dues! Consider Spreading Your Payments!

Susie Westbrook will begin collecting dues at our meeting on Saturday for the 2015-2016 year. The dues are the same as last year—\$75.

This year, as a convenience to some of our members, the Alpha Phi Financial Committee is offering members the opportunity to pay their dues in two installments: **\$45 and \$30**, making sure the **second installment is paid before the end of October**. When you pay your first installment, you will receive a receipt with the amount paid so you will know what you owe.

## Bring a Colleague to DKG!

You have heard of "Bring Your Daughter to Work" day? What about "Bring Your Colleague to DKG" day? Consider the possibilities! Below is a Member Prospect Card. Please complete the information on this form for at least one colleague. and bring it with you to our meeting on Saturday. You can fill out more than one of these cards. Jeni says that members who do that will be guaranteed Brownie points.

### Alpha Phi Member Prospect Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

## Member News

- ⇒ Barbara Northcut's granddaughter — Lillian Reese Fulgham — was born to Alpha Phi Member Jessica Fulgham 6/23/15. She is doing well, and yes she does have red hair!
- ⇒ Barbara Northcut appreciates Susan Westbrook's driving her to Savannah, GA, for the SE Regional Conference. Susan also prepared beautiful candy gift boxes advertising Barbara's business's new name, "ViVI," the NEW Cookie Lee Jewelry. Susie also created a beautiful ViVI display sign, handed out promotional invitations to shop and worked in the SERC Marketplace with Barbara's ViVI booth during marketplace hours, only leaving to attend SERC Chorus Rehearsal. What a dedicated DKG Sister! Thank you!
- ⇒ Jensi Souder's SE presidents group (5 of the remaining 7) got together in South Carolina in May for their annual/biennial reunion. They went to Biltmore one day and just enjoyed one another the remaining two days. One of their group came all the way from England to join in the festivities!
- ⇒ Karla Riddle has been caring for her husband, who has a broken back. Our thoughts and prayers reach out to her.
- ⇒ In August, Pat Hartline, Marcia Christian and Sharon McMahan will travel to Clearwater, FL to visit another DKG member.
- ⇒ Lin Marten will take an Alaskan cruise with her husband at the end of August
- ⇒ Ann Moore has retired and is taking an August vacation, just because she can! Congratulations, Ann!

## Xi State Convention

Alpha Phi had four members to attend all or part of the convention: Jensi Souders, Sharon McMahan, Barbara Northcut, Susie Westbrook.

Our chapter earned the Maycie Chapter Excellence Award in the **gold** category. We accrued points through our various projects, programs, chapter attendance, chapter growth, participation at Xi State, yearbook, newsletter, etc. Shown here is an array of our awards!! We also received a belated award for our Chapter Success Plan.



L to R: Susie Westbrook, Jensi Souders, Sharon McMahan

## Also at Xi State

The Parade of Presidents at the awards banquet the final night. These are the presidents from our area, Area 3, of Tennessee.



## Beyond the Chapter



Some members have questioned the need to attend meetings beyond the chapter. One reason is networking. You get to meet many Tennessee teachers if you attend Xi State. If you attend Southeast Regional or International, your net of possible contacts becomes global. For example, the husband of an Alpha Phi member accepted a job in another state. With our contacts we were able to connect with members in that state. She found a job. A Georgia member's husband was to receive treatment at a NY hospital. NY members took her under their wing and made sure she was welcomed and helped during her husband's treatment.

Secondly, if you attend the appropriate breakout sessions at Xi State, SERC, or International you learn how to complete the applications for scholarships and stipends to attend professional workshops. Two teachers from Dunlap were the recipients of a grant to attend a pre-k workshop in Las Vegas last year. This year only one scholarship was awarded. Rumor has it that only one person applied.

Thirdly, the breakout sessions are great - from professional development to chapter projects to technology assistance. You go home with tools and tips and techniques you didn't even know you didn't have! Plus you can get professional development credits for attending breakouts and hearing speakers!

Fourthly, we are there for you! Your DKG members offer professional expertise, moral support, counsel, and encouragement. You have our friendship and lasting loyalty. What other organization will do that?

Come and share a good time with a wider group of DKG members! You would be surprised at the excitement and enthusiasm that it generates!

# April Founders Day Meeting

## PRESS RELEASE TO THE TIMES FREE PRESS

### Times-Free Columnist Cook Receives Distinctive Service to Education Award

The 2015 Distinctive Service to Education Award, presented by the local units of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, an educational organization for women around the world, was presented to Chattanooga Times Free Press columnist David Cook during the association's Founders' Day celebration May 25, 2015.

As a former public school educator, Cook frequently writes about educational topics, presenting current educational issues from differing viewpoints. Cook's columns leave readers' thinking. His columns on educational testing, teacher evaluation and accountability, teachers and students who inspire others to achieve and many other topics help raise public awareness at a time when education and educators are beset by only negative publicity and opinions. Previous awardees have included David Carroll, Marcia Kling, Everett Fairchild, Rodney Van Valkenburg, Debbie Colburn, Komatsu Corp., Rep. Tommie Brown, Mayor Andy Berke, Dr. June Scobee Rogers and the Creative Discovery Museum.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International honors women educators who have given or who have the potential to give distinctive service to education. Located in 17 countries in North and Central America, Europe and Asia, the Society awards approximately \$3 million each year to members and non-members in scholarships and grants, making it one of the largest philanthropic organizations of its kind. With more than 80,000 members worldwide, the Society is represented by more than 400 educators in Chattanooga's tristate area..

David Cook announced last week that he is going back into teaching--English! Is it possible that our award had something to do with his decision?!! We may never know, but congratulations to David!

*L to R: David Cook. Janice Nelms, Chattanooga DKG Coordinating Council Chair.*





## Southeastern Regional Conference Savannah, GA; August 15 - 18

Savannah won our hearts at the 2015 Southeast Regional Conference. In spite of the heat, Savannah seduced us with its hospitality, wonderful food, and ambiance. Southeast Regional Director, Becky Sadowski (TN) provided a well organized conference and the Georgia girls made sure everything ran smoothly. The conference offered 60 workshops or breakout sessions. One third of the breakout sessions catered to the active teacher, one third focused on DKG, and the remaining breakout sessions were of general interest. There was something for everyone. There were 747 registered for the conference which included 714 members plus guests. For some members, Savannah was an opportunity to combine a family vacation with DKG business. Afternoons and evenings were available to explore.

The First General Session celebrated the faces of change—the out going and incoming new state presidents. The evening ended with rousing musical entertainment provided by the host state—a wonderful singer from Savannah, Huxie Smith. At the Second General Session the keynote speaker was Polly Letofsky who spoke about her five year journey to walk around the world to promote breast cancer awareness. She traveled across 4 continents, 22 countries, and over 14,000 miles—to become the first woman to walk around the world. Sometimes serious and often funny, Polly encouraged us to tackle life's obstacles one step at a time.

At the awards luncheon, scholarship recipients were recognized as well as 50 year DKG members. However, we in the southeast were on the edge of our seats hoping President Lyn Schmid would present the International Achievement Award to someone in our conference. Those at Lyn's table had no clue. She had no notes or a jewelry box with her. She kept the secret close to her chest—LITERALLY. When Lyn went to the podium we were all happily surprised to see her pull the medal from her bra! The International Achievement honoree is Carolyn Pittman from Arkansas.

At the Third General Session Nita Scott, Membership Services Director, spoke about the collaboration between some chapters and the Girl Scouts. This is a prime example of thinking outside the box. We don't always have to collaborate with a school!

Susan Scanlan was the guest speaker for the US Forum. She has been an advocate for women's rights on Capitol Hill for over 40 years. In 1977 she co-founded the Congresswomen's Caucus. She was a very dynamic speaker, pointing out what we all know, it is still a man's world.

These are our Alpha Phi attendees in Savannah!



L to R: Sharon McMahan, Jensi Souders, Lin Marten, Susie Westbrook and Barbara Northcut

The Dessert Reception honoring our Vision Foundation members



# Happy Birthday to our Members

## May

1st: Dr. Barbara Fulmer  
6th: Pat Hartline  
8th: Kimberly Elbakidze  
14th: Kim Shomaker

## June

1st: Ann Moore  
1st: Dr. Ava Warren  
28th: Barbara Northcut



## July

18th: Christina Neighbors  
27th: Sara Makemson  
29th: Mary Holland

## August

4th: Dr. Jessie Schmid  
4th: Amy Wright  
9th: Kathy Cox  
16th: Sandy Smith  
19th: Pat Veldman  
23rd: Marcia Christian

# New Website

Check out our new website address!! Please bookmark it for quick and easy access!



[www.deltakappagamma.org/TN-alphaphi](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/TN-alphaphi)