



ALPHA PHI INFORMER

FEBRUARY 2016

EDITED BY
LIN MARTEN AND SHARON
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Jots from Jeni

Red hearts are everywhere! I no more than wish you Happy New Year then—poof!-- here it is Valentine’s Day! We go from the proverbial harbinger of spring, the groundhog, seeing his shadow, to ice and snow, back to balmy weather...! Well, isn’t this typical of Chattanooga weather?!

We are gearing up for the international convention in July, with training for volunteers to take place in June at the state organization convention in Se-
wanee. All the convention information is in the Jan/Feb edition of your DKG NEWS and there is still time for you to plan to attend one or more days of the convention in Nashville.

On the school front, teachers and students are gearing up for spring testing, with some parents vowing to keep their children home on test days; one of our members has been in the throes of a court case assaulting special education services; and we’ve had the sad spectre of student-on-student violence. All of this once again puts schools in the spotlight, not in a good way, eclipsing the major good news of how educators and students are thriving, with no spotlight on their accomplishments.

But closer to us in Alpha Phi Chapter, we have the wonderful news of a new baby in the chapter—Josephine Quillen, born to Amy Swoope Quillen and her husband, Justin, in December. Contrary to my normal practice, I held 5-day-old baby Josie for an instant (too nervous around new-borns for much longer than that!) and then got a picture of her and proud mom Amy.

As we approach this Valentine’s Day and Presidents’ Day, with our February 18 meeting sandwiched in there, I hope you will rejoice in the positive atmosphere and fellowship that surround you as a part of your membership in DKG. The support you can and do receive and give to one another is palpable and reassuring. I trust that you will join in that fellowship and support this spring at one or more of your Alpha Phi meetings in February, March and April.

In the meantime, keep warm, keep safe, and know that DKG supports you in your efforts and goals, both personal and professional.

New Website

Please bookmark it for quick and easy access!



www.deltakappagamma.org/TN-alphaphi/

Upcoming Meeting

FEBRUARY MEETING

February 18, Thursday 5:30 P.M.	HCEA building Hamilton County Education Assn 4655 Shallowford Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37411	Prevention and management of diabetes and weight Speaker: Jason Peter from Memorial Other topics: Voting on officers; DKG Site Member Profiles
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Hostesses: Patsy Woodham, Susie Westbrook

Directions to the February meeting:

From the intersection of I-75 and TN 193, take 193 north toward Chickamauga dam. Exit at Shallowford Rd (exit 2). Turn left on to Shallowford Rd. Hamilton County Education Association will be approximately 1.3 miles on the right. You actually need to turn onto a roadway to get to it, as the building is set back from Shallowford. The turn is halfway between Airport Road and the entrance to Vulcan rock quarry, on the opposite side of the road (same side as cemetery).

Come prepared for the meeting:

DKG wants all members to update their profile on the DKG website. Bring your computer, tablet or smart phone, and we will assist you in doing this. You will need your member number. This can be found above your name on the mailing label of DKG news. It is just the first 6 digits of the 7-digit number found there. If you do not have that, check for the number on your member id card or call Susie Westbrook. If you do not have a computer, don't worry. We will have some technology there to assist you.

2015-2016 Calendar of Events

March	March 12, Saturday	10:00 A.M.	Hixson United Methodist Church, Friendship House	Legislative Update Installation of officers
	<i>Hostesses: Mary Holland, Amy Thompson, Barbara Northcut</i>			
April	April 23, Saturday	11:00 A.M.	Choo Choo Centennial Hall	Joint Founders' Day brunch
	<i>Hostesses: Patsy Woodham, Jensi Souders</i>			
June	June 2 - 4, Thursday - Sunday	Xi State Convention	Sewanee, TN	Includes training for International Convention volunteers
July	July 5 - 9, Tuesday - Saturday	2016 International Convention	Opryland Hotel	Nashville, TN
August	August 6, Saturday	10:00 A.M.	Jensi's house	Business and fellowship
	<i>Hostesses: Sharon McMahan, Sandy Smith</i>			

Member News



⇒ Amy Swoope Quillen gave birth to daughter Josephine on December 8th. Josephine was age 5 days at the time this pic was taken. Amy, Josephine and husband, Justin, are all doing fine. Congratulations Amy!

⇒ Judy Nixon lost her husband last month. Last week, her father passed away in Mississippi. Please let Judy know how very sorry we are for her and her family. Judy, if there is anything your Alpha Phi sisters can do for you, please let us know.



⇒ Ann Moore lost her mother in December. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her and her family as well.

⇒ Christina Neighbors married Cal Atchley on December 26th -- a Christmas wedding. Congratulations, Christina!



Christina Neighbors and her husband, Cal Atchley

⇒ We have several Alpha Phi members in the The Mid South Band, They are celebrating their 25th anniversary this spring by playing in Orlando at Universal Studios. Way to go! Can we all carry your bags?



⇒ Sara Makemson's daughter is getting married! Congratulations!



New Officers

We have new nominations for Alpha Phi officers for the 2016-2017 biennium. They are

- ◇ President: Cami Mitchell
- ◇ 1st Vice President: Christina Neighbors
- ◇ 2nd Vice President: Jeanette Underwood
- ◇ Secretary: Danita Clark
- ◇ Treasurer: Susie Westbrook
- ◇ Newsletter: Sharon McMahan
- ◇ Webmaster: Lin Marten

Officers will be voted upon at our February meeting and installed at our March meeting.

Executive Board Meeting



Alpha Phi Executive Board Meeting Minutes January 30, 2016, Wally's Restaurant, 10:00 a.m.

President Jensi Souders called to order the meeting of Alpha Phi's Executive Board at 10:00. Present were Souders, treasurer Susie Westbrook, parliamentarian and editor Sharon McMahan, webmaster Lin Marten, and committee chairs Amy Thompson, Ann Moore, Sara Makemson, and Patsy Woodham. Cami Mitchell, nominee for chapter president, attended as a guest.

Minutes from the May 16, 2015, board meeting were not available, but the agenda for that meeting was reviewed. The treasurer's report was accepted. There were no reports on yearbook, website, newsletter or coordinating council.

Committee reports: the items on the upcoming February and March meetings were discussed (Educational Excellence); it was agreed that \$100 would be given to members actively in education at the March meeting, the amount to come from the anonymous donation (Educational Services); The total amount made on the November Belk Sale is \$456.30. (Finance); and the slate of officers for 2016-2018 was reviewed. All nominees are secured except first vice president (Nominations).

Old business:

- Since the chapter's nominee for Order of the Rose was not accepted last year, board members recommended that the nomination be resubmitted this year.
- The project of having members set a personal goal for themselves that would help the chapter succeed has been only a partial success, but board members agreed that it should be continued next biennium.

New business:

- **Founders Day:** Alpha Phi is responsible for arrangements for the joint Founders Day. The place and time has been arranged by Judy Nixon (April 23, 10:00 UTC Student Center, Chattanooga Room) but a menu and meal cost has not yet been determined. Since Judy Nixon's husband illness and death were so recent, Souders is awaiting receiving a contact name and number to determine the meal and cost. She hopes to have that before the upcoming coordinating council meeting. We are also responsible for sending written invitations to Area III chapters outside Chattanooga. Mitchell volunteered to write those letters. The room rental is \$250, \$100 of which will be paid by the coordinating council.
- **State organization convention birthday brunch decorations:** Westbrook came prepared with several suggestions for table decorations and favors. When the choice was made, members agreed to a **May 21** workday at Susie's, beginning at 9:00. All members will make Rollo pretzels (one candy bag's worth) as favors and bring them to the workday.
- **Maycie Award for Chapter Excellence:** The award application was reviewed for accuracy.
- **VIP Bags for international convention:** Souders noted that she has volunteered the chapter for two VIP bags, to be filled with Chattanooga/area/Tennessee items. The type of items to include was discussed and each member asked to keep her eyes open for qualifying items, purchase two each, keep receipts, and bring all to the work day in May.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Executive Board Meeting (con't)

Happy Participants:



l to r: Sara Makemson, Susie Westbrook, Lin Marten, Jensi Souders, AmyThompson, Ann Moore and Sharon McMahan



l to r: Jensi and Susie



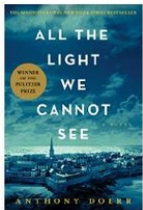
l to r: Cami Mitchell and Lin Marten

Book Report

-- by Susie Westbrook

All the Light we Cannot See

“It is a literary treat!”



It has been a while since I have read a book that has drawn me into its world so completely that I didn't want the book to end. This was due largely to the author's beautiful use of imagery as he expertly crafted short, almost lyrical chapters told from the point of view of alternating characters.



Set in a small World War II French village, All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr, weaves the lives of a young German orphan boy and a newly blinded French girl, slowly drawing them nearer one another. Throughout the novel, Doerr deftly defines the idiosyncrasies of each character, using beautifully flowing language.

Beyond the basic plotline, the layered meanings run deep in this book. There are lessons - all related to light - revealed through the events of the main characters' lives. Further, through the details depicting the ugliness of war, making the story often difficult to read, the author reveals how in the darkest moments human goodness can still blossom.

I cannot express just how beautifully written this rare book is and how highly I recommend it.

---Susie Westbrook

Tennessee Budgets for Teachers

Haslam increases education budget

Article by Sharon McMahan

In his State of the Union address Haslam proposed adding \$261 million for k-12 education. The new money would be used to increase teacher pay and adding a twelfth month of coverage of teacher health insurance. The governor is not relying on an increase in taxes to cover the budget but a budget surplus from 2015 and other budget cuts. It includes roughly \$105 million for teacher salaries and \$45 million health coverage for teachers. The budget will also include \$50 million for the governor's plan to increase college graduation rates—Drive to 55. The proposed budget will also include money for the old UTC Lupton Library repair and renovation and maintenance and repair of other educational buildings at Chattanooga State and Cleveland State.

Hamilton County and six other counties went to court last year declaring that the state's current funding formula shortchanges them. It remains to be seen if the governor's new budget proposals will satisfy the court and, more importantly, the county school boards.

This uncertainty adds to teachers' frustrations and now we have the TNReady debacle. There are no words!

Pop Tabs Deadline

A reminder to all members who are saving pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House: Sharon will deliver the pop tabs to RMH after the Founders' Day Luncheon in April. You need to give your pop tabs to Sharon by then. Please bring them to one of the chapter meetings. This has been a chapter project of Alpha Phi for many years. Please help us!



Happy Birthday to our Members

February

- 3rd: Mary Starnes
- 3rd: Teresa Wilhoite
- 9th: Marjorie Ogle
- 23rd: Olivia Bagby
- 24th: Warisa Jarrett



March

- 3rd: Dianne Kelehear
- 3rd: Patsy Woodham
- 18th: Laura Belue
- 26th: Sharon McMahan
- 29th: Danita Clark

Jensi Shares a Recipe



Easy Enchiladas

From International Parliamentarian Dr. Gwen Simmons via
Jensi Souders



Ingredients:

- 1 lb or more ground beef, browned and drained of excess grease/liquid
OR
- 1 lb. or more chopped chicken (Jensi uses a bought rotisserie chicken that equals @ 1 lb.
of Meat)
- 1 can cream of chicken soup (plus 1 can of water)
- 1 can cream of celery soup OR cream of mushroom soup
- 1 pack of Taco Seasoning mix (Jensi uses $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the package contents)
- 1 19-oz. can of mild Enchilada sauce (or hotter, to taste)
- 1 2-cup bag of shredded sharp cheddar cheese (or more, to taste)
- 8 extra-large flour tortillas

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray a 9' x 13" pan with cooking oil.
2. Combine taco seasoning, canned soups, water, enchilada sauce in large sauce pan and heat.. Pour a thin layer of sauce in bottom of pan. Set remainder aside.
3. Place @2 oz. of meat on a tortilla. Sprinkle with shredded cheese and roll up tortilla, folding ends in before rolling. Place in greased pan.
4. Cover all tortillas with remaining heated sauce, ensuring that sauce goes to bottom and between tortillas. Sprinkle with remaining/additional shredded cheese as final top, thin layer.
5. Cook for at least 35 minutes to an hour (Gwen and Jensi cook for an hour)
6. Serve with chopped onions, tomatoes, lettuce on top. Top with sour cream (Jensi also uses mild salsa on top)

This dish is perfect for early preparation and freezing until ready to cook and serve.