

# ALPHA PHI INFORMER

July, 2012

Volume 1. Number 1

## A Note From the President

I can't believe that summer is winding down already, although you certainly could not prove it by the temperatures! I am thrilled to be your president for this biennium, although I know I have some difficult shoes to fill.

In June, we had our first Executive Board meeting. It was attended by Jensi Souders, Sharon McMahon, Susie Westbrook, Barbara Fulmer, Rachel Price and Amy Swoope. It was a great meeting with fun fellowship and a lot of outcomes. We agreed on the list of meetings for this coming school year as well as tentative dates and places. We agreed on members we would like to have chair and/or participate in various committees. And maybe most important, we agreed on a list of goals that we will present to our members at the August meeting. These goals are as follows:

- Retain and grow membership,
- Update chapter rules to reflect changes at Xi State and International,
- Increase communication across the chapter,
- Provide meaningful support for all of our active educators.



*Alpha Phi President, Lin Marten, presiding at the July Board meeting.*

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President's  
Message  
Continued

I would like us to consider as a theme for this biennium, "TLC for Educators." Our active educators are dealing with a tremendous amount of change and pressure in the classrooms and schools today. They are faced with growing frustrations from the changing political system and are under greater pressure than ever to improve student test scores and school outcomes. They are dealing with these changes in the face of a lot of negativity toward teachers and education in this nation. If as an organization, wouldn't it be nice if we could just ease some of their burden from time to time? What if we could just let them know that we understand their frustrations and are here to support them? What if we could provide some needed money for classroom projects? This is some of what we would like to do under the theme of "TLC for Educators." Please come to our August meeting with your thoughts and ideas about this theme. How can we do a better job of helping? One idea we discussed was "Adopt an Educator." Our retired teachers might consider adopting one or more active educators to support. This might include things as simple as phone calls. It could also include goody bags, classroom volunteer time, and assistance with grant acquisitions. It would give us a better chance to mentor the younger educators without forgetting the struggles of the more mature ones. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm to our next meeting!

On a note to review the Xi State convention at Sewanee, I would like to congratulate Alpha Phi for achieving silver recognition as a Chapter of Excellence. As I looked over newsletters from the past couple of years, we have come a long way, and should be proud of our accomplishments. We thank Sharon McMahan for her diligence in recording and tracking all of

our chapter achievements that led to this recognition. As we press forward, let us cast our eye to "gold recognition" at the coming conventions!

I know that some of our members are preparing to leave for New York City for the International Conference. It will be our opportunity to support Jeni as she transitions her office to a new candidate, and it will be fun to enjoy the delights of the Big Apple as we meet and greet and attend our meetings. I hope to see you there!! if not, I will see you at the August meeting.

Summary of Minutes  
Board Meeting, June 19, 2012

- ❖ Meeting dates and programs were discussed and tentatively scheduled.
- ❖ Goals were developed for the upcoming year (see President's notes for list of goals).
- ❖ TLC for Educators was discussed as Alpha Phi theme for the year.
- ❖ Committees and committee chairs and members were discussed.
- ❖ Other ideas such as a January social and ways to get to know our members were discussed.
- ❖ Susie Westbrook was officially appointed as Treasurer.



**Important Dates!**

## Schedule of Meetings 2012

The first meeting of the year will be on **August 4, 2012, 9:30–12:00** at **Greenway Farm**. Greenway Farm is a city park located at 5051 Gann Store Road. It can also be accessed from Hamill Road by turning right from Highway 153 onto Hamill Road at Memorial North Park Hospital. The entrance to the park is located on the right after crossing North Chickamauga Creek. We will enjoy a brunch celebrating active teachers and participate in kickoff committee meetings.

Additional Meetings in 2012:

- ❖ **September 15, 2012:** Wellness program with motivational speaker, Tennessee River Park
- ❖ **October 20, 2012:** Reorientation, Tennessee River Park
- ❖ **November, 2012:** Initiation, Tyner UMC, Date TBA
- ❖ **December 8, 2012:** Holiday Brunch, Beyond the Garden Gate Tea House, Ooltewah

## Alpha Phi Officers

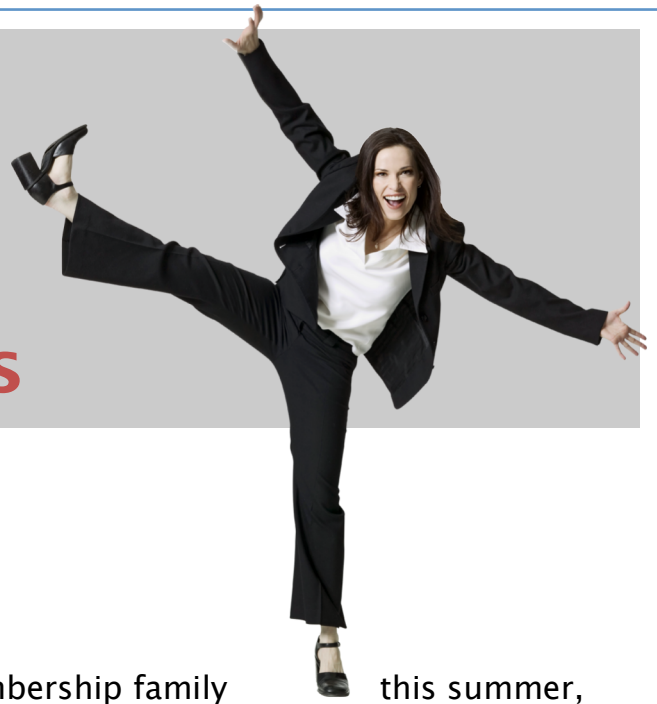
<b>President:</b>	<b>Lin Marten</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:</b>	<b>Rachel Price</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President:</b>	<b>Barbara Fulmer</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Susie Westbrook</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Amy Swoope</b>

## 2012–2013 Committee Chair

<b>Membership:</b>	<b>Jensi Souders</b>
<b>Education Services:</b>	<b>Sharon McMahan</b>
<b>Finance:</b>	<b>Laurie Richardson</b>
<b>Strategic Plan:</b>	<b>Jensi Souders Amy Swoope</b>
<b>Nominations:</b>	<b>Joy Hudson</b>
<b>Program of Work:</b>	<b>Rachel Price</b>
<b>Rules:</b>	<b>Sharon McMahan</b>



# Our Summer Member News



- ❖ We welcome two new babies to our membership family this summer, **Lena Engstrom's** fifth great-grandchild and **Barbara Fulmer's** twelfth grandchild.
- ❖ **Pat Hartline's** brother-in-law is suffering from serious health issues as the result of recent back surgery.
- ❖ **Mary Holland** will be teaching fifth grade math this year at East Brainerd Intermediate School. Her son, Stephen graduated in the spring from UTK with a degree in Electrical Engineering.
- ❖ **Lin Marten** retired this year from Walker County Schools. She is planning to do a lot of traveling this year in a new travel trailer.
- ❖ **Ann Moore** had a wedding in her family this summer. Her daughter, Tracy, married JB on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The happy couple is living in Cleveland. Also, in July, Ann hosted a mini reunion/birthday party at Bright School for family members.
- ❖ **Barbara Northcut** spent the summer dealing with major construction work in her home as the result of water damage. After a long summer of living in the midst of chaos, she is enjoying new hardwood floors and repaired kitchen cabinets.
- ❖ **Sandy Smith** retired from Hamilton County in June and jumped right into the political arena. She is a candidate for State House District 30.
- ❖ **Jensi Souders** has been very busy as she completes her term as International President. She has been working on plans for the international convention, meeting with the international Leadership Management Class of 2012 in Austin, and attending a Seminar in Purposeful Living in Washington, DC. After the convention, she and Jim are going to their condo for some well-deserved R&R.
- ❖ **Jeanette Underwood** spent three weeks in Europe visiting Paris, London, Wales, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Normandy. She also traveled to St. Augustine World Golf Villages, Utah, and Las Vegas. In addition, she has been spending time grand-mothering and scrapbooking!

## Member News Continued



- ❖ **Mary Ann Voss** recently moved. Her new address is 5811 Mountain Pass Dr in Ooltewah, 37363.
- ❖ **Ava Warren** worked hard this summer to make sure Hamilton County's secondary schools are fully staffed.
- ❖ We celebrate with **Susie Westbrook** on the publication of a book she wrote to record the history of Red Bank Baptist Church! This project took a year and a half to complete. Congratulations, Susie!
- ❖ **Andrea Ziegler** is moving to Tuscaloosa where her husband will serve as the Minister of Music and Worship at the First Baptist Church there. We will miss you, Andrea and wish you the best!

## XI State News



### ★★★ Leadership Management

Beginning Leadership Management Seminar will be held October 12-14 at the beautiful Hachland Hill Vineyard and Corporate Retreat in Joelton, TN (just north of Nashville). Cathy Daugherty will be the presenter. The new, more user-friendly application is on the Xi State website, and the deadline is September 1.

*Alpha Phi members Sharon McMahan, Jensi Souders, Susie Westbrook, Lin Marten, Rachel Price and Barbara Northcut enjoying the Xi State Convention in June.*

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