

***“I’m retired! I don’t know where to
find potential members!”***
***“I’m working! I’m too busy to look for
new members!”***



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Hmmm! Have you heard one or both of those lines before? Did one of them come from your mouth or from your thought processes?

It is time to open our minds to finding potential members!

They are all around us!

- School or work place (early-career educators, regular and part-time teaching staff, specialists, long-time substitutes, support personnel, and administrators)
- Service centers, central office, board of education meetings
- Grade-level, department, curriculum or professional development meetings, conferences, workshops, and conventions
- Community colleges, universities, adult and community education centers
- Church, weight watcher meetings, election polls
- Community park, recreation, sport, and leisure-time programs
- Pre-school, private, parochial, charter, alternative schools, and senior citizen centers
- Hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living, and care centers
- Zoos, museums, art galleries, home school organizations, and public libraries
- Private businesses and corporations who have individuals responsible for providing training and in-service training or creating instructional or training materials
- Health, wellness, personal growth, travel, enrichment, human growth and development speakers and events
- Tutors and private teachers of musical instruments, drama, dance and painting
- Recent student teachers and college education majors who are now in the profession

Begin thinking of those who may be “hiding in plain sight”?

Be reminded of these things:

1. Our *Constitution* defines an active member as “a woman, who at the time of her election, is employed as a professional educator or has retired from an educational position. (e.g. first-year educators through any number of years retired)
2. Certification is not required.
3. While younger generations of educators may not think, dress, or act like the veteran and baby boomer generations, that is not an indication that they are any less professionally qualified for membership.

Your September assignment:

Identify at least one prospective member; talk to her, telling her who we are and what we do; then, invite her to our September meeting so that she can meet us and we can get to know her.

Finally, statistics tell us that 70% of former members would reinstate if they were asked!! Do you know someone who has been an active or reserve member who has quit paying her dues for some reason? Contact her, invite her to a meeting. Tell her we’d love to have her back.

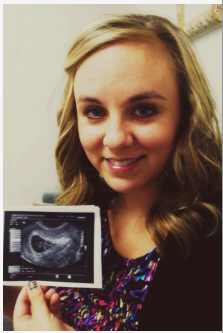
--Jensi Souders

MEMBER NEWS



- + **Margaret Abernathy** is delighted to report that the tornado renovations to her house are almost completed. She is anxious to have a worker-free house!
- + **Laura Burke** 's daughter Julie gave birth to a son, Noah Cory, in September. He joins sister Avery who was four in May. Laura spent 5 weeks with them at their home in California and in Chattanooga during the summer.
- + **Diane Kelehear** is very proud of her son Zack who began law school at the University of Georgia this semester.
- + **Cami Mitchell** enjoyed doing some redecorating work in her home last summer and spending time with her family.
- + **Judy Nixon** visited her daughter and granddaughter in the D.C. area. She is looking forward to visiting them in Rome when they move there next year. She has also been helping her Mother who is suffering from Alzheimer's disease.
- + **Joanne Smith** celebrated the high school graduation of her third grandchild. She and Bob now have three grandchildren enrolled in college; a freshman at MTSU, a sophomore at UGA and a senior at Ga. Tech.

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS



LAURA BELUE is a new Alpha Phi member. She is an 8th grade language arts teacher at Rossville Middle School where she is also the yearbook advisor and cheerleader coach.

Originally from Ringgold, Laura comes from an education family. Her grandmother is a retired Walker county educator and her mother is an office secretary at LaFayette High School.

A Dalton State College graduate, Laura is married to B.J. Belue. As you can see in the picture, Laura is sharing some exciting news with us! She and B.J. are expecting their first child in March.

Welcome to Alpha Phi, Laura!



Laurie Richardson has been a member of Alpha Phi for twenty years during which time she served one term as President and multiple terms as Treasurer. A retired HCDE educator, Laurie taught in elementary classrooms and served as guidance counselor at McConnell, Daisy, Red Bank, Allen Spring Creek, and Mobray elementary schools.

Laurie and husband John have two daughters, Cameron and Erin, and three grandchildren. Erin (Riddle), an Alpha Phi member herself, will make it four soon!

Laurie enjoys her vacation home in Highlands, Bible study, and participating in mission projects.