



ALPHA PHI INFORMER

MARCH 2013

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Founder's Day
- Grant Recipients
- Alpha Phi Member Information

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A Note From the President

Well, as many of you know, I recently got out of the hospital after three long weeks. I didn't know insurance companies would allow anyone to spend three weeks in the hospital these days! And yet, it was the insurance company that kept me in there the last four days.

So, go figure

First, I would like to thank all the members who sent cards or called or visited. That helps a lot with morale. But I also want to thank all of the members who sent prayers and good wishes. Those are very valuable things, and when you are facing a difficult time, I firmly believe that prayers are the fuel that drives recovery. So thank you with all of my heart.

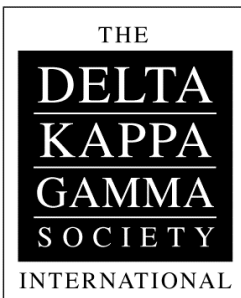
But, I have to ask myself, what did I learn? Wow! You would think with three long weeks to contemplate, I would be brimming with new found wisdom! But I'm not. However, I think that "perseverance" is the trait I

learned the most about. Each day my hope for improvement was high; it was one step forward and two steps back; then it slowly changed to two steps forward and one step back.

Every day brought some unique new challenges. But I persevered. I reminded myself daily what we often do as teachers on bad days: "This too shall pass." And it does, and the good days shine in our memories.

I also learned a lot about the power of "laughter." If you can find something to laugh at in the middle of a disaster, the "disaster" takes on a much less sinister quality. In a situation that causes you to feel powerless, laughter gives you back some of your power over the situation. And so I found ways to laugh at myself and at a lot of the things that were the most frustrating. It kept me sane. Laughter is a tool we often use in teaching.

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President's Message Continued

We use it to motivate, to commit things to memory, to put a smile on a student's face, and also, as I used it, to lighten up a situation. It is a powerful tool.

And, finally, I learned a lot about "faith" – my faith specifically. I knew the Lord was with me, and that He would help me get through it. I discovered that even when you feel you are the one who needs the help, God often uses you to reach out to others and help them in their journeys. And, as I mentioned, I grew in my belief in the power of prayer. There were days when I could feel the prayers and the love behind them. I am grateful for my steady recovery. But I am most grateful for my support system that helped me in my steady recovery. Alpha Phi and Delta Kappa Gamma are an important part of that support system. Let us not forget what our friendships and relationships mean to each other. Lin

Grant Recipients

Congratulations to Kathy Cox and Raquel Clark for receiving this years early career Sandra Allen Black grant. Each received \$250.



Pictured left to right Kathy Cox, Sharon McMahan, and Raquel Clark.

Grant Recipient Raquel Clark

Raquel Clark is the recipient of Alpha Phi's **Sandra Allen Black mini grant for early career educators**. Raquel is a second year educator at the Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences. She is an instructor in sixth grade mathematics. With her mini grant Raquel purchased a year's subscription for classroom access to BrainPop. BrainPop is an interactive educational program that provides animated videos and engaging activities and lessons that presents math to middle school students in a fun, interesting, and non-traditional way. Raquel felt that she needed to incorporate more technology as well as engaging activities into her instruction. The series also appeals to visual and hands-on learners. Raquel typically presented a topic for instruction and then used BrainPOP as an additional reinforcement. Raquel surveyed her students concerning the use of BrainPOP in their classroom. She found that the students felt that the videos series presented math concepts in a clear, easily understandable format that appealed to the them. The series is also available in science, language arts, social studies, and technology. Raquel made a short presentation at the chapter meeting explaining how she used the video series in her classroom.

Kathy Cox is our other mini grant recipient and will make her presentation at our first meeting next school year.



Raquel Clark presenting at our March meeting on BrainPop purchased with the grant.

Membership Memo

Our Next, Best Member Might Be Your Neighbor!

When did you last look around your school, your office, your church, your family, your neighborhood with membership in DKG in mind? According to our membership profile, only 10 members have recommended an educator for membership in the past five years. Thirteen (13) of our chapter members have never nominated someone.

This is astounding, considering that half our members joined and have remained members because of the fellowship and networking opportunities with other key women educators!

Who might be an outstanding member of our chapter? Perhaps that person you sing beside in church choir who teaches in another school or system; perhaps it's the woman who just successfully completed her National Board Certification; perhaps it's that first-year educator that just moved into your neighborhood.

There are outstanding experienced educators and newer educators who have the potential to be outstanding all around us, if we will just open our eyes and look around. DKG's second Purpose is **"To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education."** Someone honored you with the gift of membership. Return the favor by recommending one or more other educators.

Contact Jensi Souders (423-344-7120, jsouders3@comcast.net) to get a recommendation form, or go to DKG.org, the Society website, and look under Forms/Membership/Recommendation for Invitation to Membership.

Remember, members can be nominated and inducted any time during the year, not just in the fall. Won't you seize the opportunity to talk to others about DKG and invite them to complete the recommendation form, or get the information from them and complete the form yourself? Return the form to Jensi via email or snail mail.

Help outstanding educators stay in the profession through the rewards and opportunities of membership in DKG!

Audrey Hepburn's "Beauty Tips"

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.

For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.

For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.

For beautiful hair, let a child run his fingers through it once a day.

For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone.

People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone.

Remember that if you need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms.

As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.

Inspirational quote shared at February meeting

Legislative Symposium

Pictured below are those who attended the Legislative Symposium in February.



Pictured left to right Rachel, Sandy, Jenji, and Sharon.

Member's Corner

- ~ Our sympathy is extended to **Warisa Jarrett** and her husband in the recent death of her father-in-law.
- ~ Continued prayers for **Lin Martin** as she is recovering from surgery and more is scheduled in the coming months.
- ~ **Susie Westbrook** is in need of encouraging words, prayers and support as she cares for her husband Jim.

Happy Birthday to our Members

March

Dianne Kelehear — 3rd
 Patsy Woodham — 3rd
 Sharon McMahan — 26th

April

Karla Riddle — 3rd
 Mary Ann Voss — 3rd
 Sherry McCullough — 13th
 Joy Hudson — 26th

Alpha Phi Calendar

- ~ April 27th: Founders Day, Brainerd United Methodist Church, time TBA
- ~ June 6th—8th: Xi State Convention Sewanee



Find us on the web:

- www.alphahidkg.com
- www.dkg.org
- www.xistate.org
- Find Xi State on Facebook

Begin NOW making plans to attend the
Xi State Convention June 6-8, 2013
University of the South, Sewanee
 and
South East Regional in Orlando
July 10-13, Gaylord Palms Resort.
 Once you attend the conventions,
 you begin to see the big picture
 as well as the impact of DKG on
 education around the world!