



ALPHA PHI INFORMER

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A Note From the President

What do you think about when you think about going back to school? For teachers, this time is filled with lesson plans, preparing classrooms, reviewing new rosters, and in-service. Being retired, I don't think of these things so much anymore (other than to bless those of you who are still teaching). I do think of renewal. German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe wrote, "We must always change, renew, rejuvenate ourselves; otherwise we harden."

As many of you know, I had a difficult winter with hospital stays and surgeries and such. I want you to know that I have emerged and am well, and I appreciate all of the prayers and support. My husband was recently diagnosed with prostate cancer. He is on a treatment plan and is currently doing very well as well. We had plans this summer to go to southern Colorado for a couple of months. We were originally supposed to leave in early May. With my problems, we moved it to early June. Then with my husband's problems, we cancelled completely. When our lives were suddenly under control again, with our difficult times behind us, we began to think of "renewal." So we renewed our southern Colorado plan. I am writing to you from a campground right outside the entrance to Mesa Verde National Park. It is beautiful

here, and we truly feel blessed to be able to enjoy our renewal.

Take a moment to consider how you might renew yourself this fall. Also, consider how you might help renew Alpha Phi. Have you talked to an early career educator about the things DKG has to offer? Have you discussed with fellow members how Alpha Phi might better meet your needs or those of the teachers around you? Have you practiced your elevator speech with people you meet?

With school beginning, you have a responsibility to help your students begin the process of renewal for this school year. One of my favorite quotes: "The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives (Robert Maynard Hutchins). I hope that you have the opportunity to enjoy the renewal happening around you.

Lin



Sharon, Beverly Smith, Lin, and Jeni

Want to know more? Here's How.

If you want to know more about DKG, its services, and increase your networking potential, consider working on the state level. It is a golden opportunity to make new friends, learn about available scholarships and grants, and discover the many projects of DKG. Lin will be

serving on a Xi State committee; Rachel will be in charge of the Legislative Symposium in Nashville; Jensi will chair the Rules Committee; and Sharon will serve as Area III Director. Consider volunteering for a state committee. The application is on the Xi State website.

August 17th Meeting

Saturday, August 17th, 10:30-12:00

Hixson United Methodist Church, Friendship House

Brunch

Potential members invited

Meeting Highlights

- 1. Honoring of 40-50 year members**
- 2. Reports on state convention and regional conferences**
- 3. Committee meetings to plan for the year**

Xi State Scholarship Committee announces 2014 application

Are you beginning a program of graduate studies this Fall? Are you thinking that this is the year to enhance your teaching through additional certification or licensure? Are you considering pursuing a Master's or Doctorate degree? Consider how a Xi State Scholarship might assist you in the process! Please check out the requirements and application process by visiting the Xi State website. Applications have a February 1, 2014 postmark deadline.

Celebrating with Alpha Phi Members

~ **Sara Makemson's** son Jim is engaged to Ashley Chapman. Their wedding will be next year.

~ **Sandy Smith** will become a grandmother in 2014! Her daughter, Katie King, Nancy Copeland, and myself honored the memory of my son, George by providing a full scholarship to Camp Ocoee. Joined the Camp Ocoee Board of Directors and the YMCA Strategic Impact Planning Committee. Worked on several fund raising ventures: HCDP, GCDWC, Camp Ocoee, CGLA Foundation Golf Tournament, and Brainerd Kiwanis Foundation Barbecue.

Attended a 5 week class, Women Know Finance in the Boardroom presented by CWLI.

Vacationed in the Blue Ridge Mountains with friends from the UK now living and teaching in Bermuda. Appointed Historian of the CHCRTA for 2013-2015, Trips planned for late summer and fall, Myrtle Beach, Panama City, and New Orleans.

~**Maryjo Baughman**, At the beginning of June I went on a week long mission trip with our worship ministry from Woodland Park Baptist Church. We went to the Bahamian island of Eleuthera. We taught music in two different public elementary schools and had a great time. There is great poverty and mostly single mom families but those children were clean, well-groomed and in pressed uniforms every day. They were joyful, spirited and anxious learners. I got to speak with several teachers and the principal. They are under British rule and ave already using their version of Common Core. The fifth grade students were taking their version of TCAP while we were there. The principal was gracious, professional, in tune with her students and the pulse of the school. She reminded me very much of my own principal at Bess T. Shepherd ES. It was a wonderful and thought provoking opportunity that I plan to repeat! Upon my return, I had arthroscopic right shoulder surgery and also a small repair to my rotator cuff. I want to say thanks for the cards and well wishes after surgery. It is slowly improving but not as quickly as I would like or am used to. Hope to see you soon,

Chattanooga Chapters Meeting

In a previous email, all members of the Chattanooga chapters were invited to attend Alpha Phi's meeting with Mayor Andy Berke, Supt. Rick Smith, and the chairman of the Public Education Foundation. The meeting is October 3rd, Thursday, 5:30--7:00 pm. It will be at Brainerd United Methodist Church. The program will be a panel discussion entitled "Focus on Education." Closer to time we will be asking for questions you would like our moderator, Rachel Price, to present.

Time to Nominate Potential Members

As you prepare to go back to school (or not), please keep in mind that now's the time (any time is the time!) to nominate quality women educators who "have given or have the potential to give distinctive service to education."

Qualified women educators are those who, at the time of their election, are employed as a professional educator or retired from educational work. This means that a member may qualify for membership who has signed her first contract as well as those who have been retired for any number of years.

You can find those quality educators, not just in the classroom or administration; they may be resource personnel (guidance, library, consultants, etc.), former student teachers in your classroom, tutors, private instructors, GED instructors, corporate trainers, zoo educators, and anywhere else that people work to educate youth or adults. They may even have been a member at one time and now is the time they'd like to reinstate!

You may find them in your church Sunday school class, in the choir, at Weight Watchers, the garden club, your civic club, or at the exercise facility. They may be your next-door neighbor.

Please broaden your periscope to search out those who would benefit from membership (scholarships, PD grants, educational project grants, fellowship, encouragement, etc.), and plan to nominate one or more in August or September for membership in Alpha Phi.

I will have nomination forms at both the August and September meetings, or you may email, call, text, or tweet me and I can send you the site to complete an interactive form online.

Please think about how excited you were to become a member and give that gift to another educator!

I look forward to seeing you at our August 17 meeting! *Jensi*

Calendar for 2013 - 2014

August 17th 10:30—12:00 Hixson UMC

Co-hosts: Laurie Richardson and Barbara Fulmer

Program: Membership, Xi State, SERC, committee reports

September 14th 11:30—1:00 Wally's East Ridge

Co-hosts: Jensi Souders and Sharon McMahan

Program: Why DKG; Why Not?

October 3rd 5:30—7:00 Brainerd UMC

Co-hosts: Rachel Price and Warisa Jarrett

Program: Panel discussion with Mayor Andy Berke, Supt. Rick Smith, chair of PEF

October 20th 3—4pm Jensi's house

Orientation for new members. All sponsors, officers, and new members are expected to attend.

November 12th 6 pm Tyner UMC

Joint initiation

December 7th 11-12:30 Tea Cottage on Hickory Valley Rd.

Co-hosts: Lena Engstrom and Pat Veldman

Program: Holiday joy

February 8th 11:00—12:30 Hixson UMC

Co-hosts: Cami Mitchell and Laura Belue

Program: Container gardening

March 13th 5:30—7 pm Bright School on Hixson Pike

Co-hosts: Ann Moore and Amy Thompson

Program: Bunko

April 26th TBA Founders' Day

Happy Birthday to our Members

August

Sandy Smith — 16th

Pat Veldman — 19th

Marcia Christian — 23rd

September

If your birthday is in September, please let me know. Didn't have any listed.

Ronald McDonald House

Please bring any saved pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House to our August meeting.

New Address for

International Website

Headquarters has a **new web address**: www.dkg.org. You'll want to delete the old bookmark and add the new address to your bookmarks.

Minutes from meeting in March

Alpha Phi Minutes 3/9/13
Hixson UMC

Those in attendance: Sharon McMahan, Warisa Jarrett, Laurie Richardson, Amy Swoope, Lin Marten, Patsy Woodham, Lena Engstrom, Amy Thompson, Jeni Souders, Barbara Northcut, Susie Westbrook, Ann Moore, Christina (guest of Ann Moore), Marcia Christian, Pat Veldman, Pat Hartline, Cami Mitchell, Raquel Clark (mini-grant recipient)

Devotional given by Cami Mitchell

Theme was Alpha Phi History. The following members presented: Barbara Northcut (70s), Patsy Woodham (60s), Jeni Souders (80s), Sharon McMahan (90s), Susie Westbrook (spanning the decades)

Founders Day is April 27th at Brainerd UMC

Mini-grant recipient Raquel Clark presented on the use of her grant, which was used to purchase Brain Pop, an online educational resource to use in the classroom. She teaches 6th grade math at CSAS.

Motions were made to accept and second minutes from February meeting. Barbara Northcut needs to be added to the February attendance list.

Sharon reported on several business items. Duties of mentor officers were read and written into chapter rules. Motions to accept and second rule change were made.

Jeni discussed 40 and 50 year pin recipients. Jeni motioned to give 50 year pins and Cami seconded.

Lin discussed the strategic action plan. Copy was given to members to take home and read, and members are to report any ideas to Jeni.

Chapter success plan will be brought up in next meeting.

There will be sale items at the April meeting including 75th anniversary book and cookbook.

Chapter voted on Distinctive Service to Education award.

There is no budget change.