

Alpha-Bits

Alpha Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma

Fall 2011

President's Message from Judy Rule

Greetings to all of our Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters. I do hope that all of you had a good summer even though the weather was hot and humid. When I looked from my back porch a couple of weeks ago, I saw that the locust tree in my back yard was shedding its leaves and thought that fall is here!! Every year I realize that it seems that time goes faster and faster. I lose months and seasons now when I used to lose only days!

I want to thank all of you who attended the State Convention in Charleston. We had a wonderful time and the ladies who issued the invitation to next year's Convention did a fantastic job. Our own **Carol Watson** did an impressive job in running the Convention and setting the path for others to follow. Our new State President, Cookie Gunther, will be very good as well and we should have a very good year.

The Northeast Regional Convention was held in Hershey, Pennsylvania. It was the first time that I had been to Hershey and I had a great time. The staff at the Library asked if I had been to a library conference because I came back with so many great ideas. We had excellent speakers—some of which you may have the opportunity to hear at the Ohio River Festival of Books in the spring. **Edna Congleton, Carol Hastie, Christy Groves** and **Mary Beth Elmore** did an excellent job selling shirts and made about a \$1,000. They attended the selling booth while **Carol Watson, Becky Wood** and I attended the breakout sessions.

I would urge you to come to the September meeting to hear more about the Conventions. **Gloria Urian** has done a remarkable job this year in planning the programs. We do have an impressive list of programs for the year and will look forward to seeing each of you at the meetings. She had help of several members and I want to thank them too. I do appreciate all of you and the work that you do for Delta Kappa Gamma. Enjoy the recipes in this newsletter and if you want to try any of them, the others of us will be happy to taste test them for you!

September Meeting

Reservations for the meeting are due on Wednesday September 7. Please call Carol Hastie at 304-617-5065 or e-mail her at cchastie123@aol.com.

Date & Time: Monday, September 12 at 6:00PM

Place: Cabell County Public Library, Huntington

Meal: Catered by Kroger: sandwich wraps, veggie tray, fruit tray, mozzarella tomatoes, chips, assorted desserts and drinks

Cost: \$10.00

Program: Reports on the Alpha Phi State Convention and the Regional Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania. There will also be a special invitation to the 2012 Alpha Phi State Convention and an update on 2012 convention plans.

Project: School supplies will be collected for the **Eastern Cabell County Humanities Organization (ECCHO)**

Parting Thought: **Diane Bowsher**

Dates of Future Alpha Chapter Meetings

October 8, 2011, Ponderosa, Rt. 60, Huntington, 10:30 a.m.

November 5, 2011, Pea Ridge Baptist, 10:00 a.m.

February 4, 2012, Milton Presbyterian, 10:00 a.m.

March 3, 2012, Pt. Pleasant Church of God, 10:00 a.m.

April 14, 2012, Steele Memorial Methodist, 5:30 p.m. initiation and 6:00 p.m. dinner

2012 State Convention

Date: April 27, 28 and 29, 2012, Charleston, Embassy Suites

Alpha Chapter is hosting the convention. Members have been busy planning for the convention including raising money for expenses and making favors. You are encouraged to attend the convention next year and help with our hosting duties.

2011 State Convention

Alpha Chapter members presented a rousing invitation to the 2012 State Convention at the 2011 State Convention. The reader/narrator was **Becky Wood**; piccolo was played by **Libby McClung**; song writers were **Mary Beth Elmore, Ruth Thornton, and Libby McClung**; singers included **Gay Bird, Suzanne Campbell, Edna Congleton, Mary Beth Elmore, Christy Groves, Carol Hastie, Lois Merritt and Gloria Urian**. These other Alpha Chapter members added support from the audience: **Diane Bowsher, Phyllis Justice, Toni McCallister, Kathy McCoy, Vicky Murdock, Judy Rule, and Carol Watson**.

Guest speakers were Acting Governor Earl Ray Tomblin and First Lady Joanne Tomblin, Theta Chapter. Alpha Chapter member **Debbie Underwood** (unable to attend the convention) was awarded a \$600 state Masters Plus Scholarship. Debbie is currently completing a Doctorate of Education – Administration at Marshall University.

April 2011 Chapter Meeting

Vicky Murdock presented the Grant-in-aid Award to Huntington High School student Kaitlyn Richmond, who has been accepted at Marshall University in the College of

Education. Vicky read part of Kaitlyn's essay "Why Education as a Career." Kaitlyn was accompanied by her parents who were obviously very proud of their daughter.

Two new members – **Jessi Miller** and **Stephanie Nida** – were initiated prior to the dinner and program. Please welcome our newest Alpha Chapter sisters!

The program – A Tribute to Our Founders – was led by **Gloria Urian** who introduced each of our founders played by **Diane Bowsher, Kim Burris, Suzanne Campbell, Christy Groves, Rebecca Haer, Carol Hastie, Vicky Murdock, Diana Murphy, Stephanie Nida, Robbyn Thompson, Carol Watson** and **Becky Wood**.

Lois Merritt introduced pianist Merri Farley, New Baptist Church, who entertained members with selections "Via Dolorosa" (words and music by Billy Sprague and Niles Borop), "It Is Well With My Soul" (words and music by Horatio G. Spafford and Philip P. Bliss) and a Chopin waltz.

Greetings were given by Alpha Phi State President (and Alpha chapter member) **Carol Watson**; she encouraged us to be active at the chapter, state and international levels and to attend the State Convention at the end of April.

Recommendations for New Members

It's time for the first reading of **recommendations for membership**. Please consider women who would be excellent candidates for membership. Remember that the guidelines have changed and we now can invite new educators as well as those who are retired (no restrictions on how long they have been retired).

You can find the membership forms on the Delta Kappa Gamma website.

Go to: <http://www.dkg.org>

Click on: Nominations Forms Available [on the left]

Under: Chapter/Member Forms

Click on: Recommendation for Invitation to Membership - Form 11

You can fill the form out online then print it out using the Print Form button at the top right of the form. Please bring completed forms to the September meeting for the first reading. The second reading and voting will take place during the October meeting.

Alpha Chapter Dues for 2011-2012

Dues for 2011-2012 are \$63 for active and \$38 for reserve membership plus the \$3 convention assessment (this is the last year for the assessment). You may mail checks to **Carol Watson** or bring them with you to one of the fall meetings – September or October. Carol reports that the Alpha Chapter accounts have been moved to Universal Credit Union. Deadline for paying dues is the end of October.

Recipe from State Convention: Can't Resist Bars

1 package (18.25 ounces) Duncan Hines white cake mix
2 eggs
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1 can (14-ounce) sweetened condensed milk
1 cup (6-ounce) semisweet chocolate chips
1/2 - 1 teaspoon instant coffee
1/4 cup butter, cubed

In large bowl, combine the cake mix, oil, and eggs. Press two-thirds of dough in a greased 13 x 9-inch pan. Set remaining dough aside.

In a microwave-safe bowl, mix sweetened condensed milk, chips, coffee and butter. Microwave for about 1 minute. Stir until smooth. Pour over crust.

Drop teaspoonfuls of remaining dough over the top.

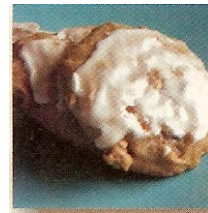
Bake at 350°F for 20-25 minutes or until lightly browned.

Cool completely before cutting.

Yield: 3 dozen

Recipe from Phyllis Justice: Glazed Apple Cookies

1/2 cup shortening	1 1/2 cups brown sugar
2 cups flour	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup milk	1 cup finely chopped apples
1 teaspoon baking soda	1 egg
1 teaspoon cinnamon	1 teaspoon cloves
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg	1 cup raisins
1 cup chopped nuts	



Mix all ingredients together and drop by teaspoon onto a greased cookie sheet. Bake at 375°F for 10 to 12 minutes. Glaze cookies while still warm. Yield: 3 dozen

Glaze

1 1/2 cups powdered sugar	1/8 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon vanilla	1 tablespoon butter
Half and half (or milk)	

Mix sugar, salt, vanilla, and butter. Add enough cream for spreading consistency.

From: Singing News magazine, December 2008, page 28