

# Alpha-Bits

Alpha Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma

Winter 2011

## President's Message from Judy Rule

Dear Alpha Sisters,

It is now time for New Year's resolutions and I certainly have many that I need to make. I am continuing my walking every day—I wear a pedometer and try to walk 70,000 steps every week—and we have had a program here at the library to increase the amount of water we drink every day. It certainly has helped my getting my steps in every week! We all need to strive to eat healthier and exercise more—use it or lose it—gets truer every year.

As far as Delta Kappa Gamma goes we will start the New Year right by initiating a new member, **Theresa Rapp**, at our February meeting. We will also be reading the names of prospective members that would be initiated in April. We need to be thinking of women educators that might be invited to join our Society. Remember some of the possibilities are private tutors, pre-school and nursery school teachers, registered nurses who present educational programs, adjunct professors, etc. During 2011 let's try to increase our membership by five. Be thinking and bring a name to the February meeting of someone who would be a great addition to Alpha Chapter.

I think **Gloria Urian** has gotten some good programs arranged for the spring and I am looking forward to seeing you at the meetings. Our chapter is the hostess for the April meeting and we will have the Founders Program for that meeting. Please offer to help with the program if you are planning to attend and make plans now to attend the joint meeting with Psi Chapter. It makes life much easier when we have people who will let us know that they are willing to help. So step up and volunteer!!! I look forward to seeing you in February.

## Alpha Chapter New Members

Instead of a New Member Tea, **Theresa Rapp**, was invited to lunch at the Marshall Hall of Fame with Alpha Chapter President Judy Rule. Theresa will be initiated at the February meeting. Welcome and congratulations!

## Alpha Chapter Resignations

**Mary Lee Leslie's** resignation was accepted (with regret) at the September meeting. At the November 2010 meeting, members accepted, also with regret, the resignations of **Debbie Chapman** and **Debbie Abel**.

## Alpha Chapter Spring Meetings

Date: Saturday February 5, 2011

Location: Cabell County Public Library

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Speaker: Donald Bowsher - Healthy Heart and Schools

Project: Huntington Kitchen Ebenezer Community Outreach Center

Food: Salads Cost: \$5.00

Parting thought: **Libby McClung**

**Deadline for reservations: February 3, 2011 – to Carol Hastie**

Date: Saturday March 5, 2011

Location: Pt Pleasant First Church of God

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Program: River Museum

Project: World Fellowship

Food: Prepared by the ladies of the Church

Cost: \$15.00

Parting thought: **Shelli Beckett**

Date: Saturday April 2, 2011; Joint meeting with Psi Chapter

Location: New Baptist Church

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Program: Alpha Chapter is in charge of the program

Initiation: Psi Chapter in charge of initiation

## November 2010 Chapter Meeting

Nikki Thomas, from Golden Girl, Inc., gave a passionate presentation at the November 9 meeting held in the Pea Ridge Baptist Church. Golden Girl, Inc. is “A Therapeutic Group Home for Girls” located in Ceredo, West Virginia. Up to twenty-four girls, ages 12 to 21, are accepted by referral with specific admission criteria. The home specializes in helping girls who, for instance, have low self esteem, have been sexually abused, have truancy problems in school, or have special education needs. Their brochure states: “Our program is designed around a basic goal to fulfill the children’s needs in an atmosphere where they can learn to feel loved, wanted, valued, accepted, encouraged and assisted to mature and grow to reach their maximum potential.” Alpha Chapter members donated hats, gloves and scarves to the girls.

## October 2010 Chapter Meeting

Dress for Success River Cities is located at 1141 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Huntington, West Virginia. Jessica Chapman, representing Dress for Success, spoke at the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting held at the Cabell County Public Library. From their web site: “Our mission is to promote the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life.” They welcome donations for clothing (especially plus sizes and petite sizes), shoes (especially in large and wide sizes), equipment, certain gift cards and vouchers. For more information call them at 304-522-3011 or visit their web site <http://www.dressforsuccess.org/rivercities>.

## September 2010 Chapter Meeting

**Becky Wood** and **Carol Watson**, who traveled to Spokane, Washington, for the 2010 International Convention, gave reports at the September 13<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting at Our Lady of Fatima. They talked about sessions and speakers, new membership changes, COLA and dues, committees being suggested at the chapter level (see separate section below on this), and a new project for girl orphans in Africa.

**Phyllis Justice** was presented the “Woman of Vision” certificate at the September meeting. Because Phyllis could not attend the State Convention in May, when the award was presented, she was surprised by President **Judy Rule’s** presentation at the chapter meeting. Also at the state convention certificates of excellence were given for the newsletter and scrapbook. A certificate for **Cathy Apel** was sent to her son John and a certificate for **Julie Viers** was sent to her niece Donna Gail Michel.

## 2012 Alpha Phi State Convention Update

Delta Kappa Sisters WE NEED YOU! The 2012 West Virginia State Convention will be here before you know it. Planning is under way and we hope you will join us. The weekend of April 27-29, 2012 we will be at the Embassy Suites in Charleston and we will need everyone to help out. There will be a variety of jobs including table hostesses for both the Birthday luncheon and Banquet on Saturday. When asked, please say YES! If you are already on a committee, please bring your calendars with you to the February meeting. We will be setting some dates for planning. (**Christy Groves** and **Carol Hastie**)

This year we are trying some fun ways to raise a little money for the 2012 State Convention. Each meeting we will be having a 50-50 raffle as well as a silent auction.

## 2011 Alpha Phi State Convention Volunteers Needed

WE NEED YOU! We will be asking volunteers to sign up to be part of doing a musical invitation at the Alpha Phi State Convention, April 30, 2011. Songs are written, practices will be scheduled soon, so all we really need is some Alpha Phi sisters who like to have a good time to join us. A sign-up sheet will be available at the February meeting or you can call **Mary Beth Elmore** at (304) 736-7790. The convention is in Charleston so even if you can't be there for the whole week-end you can drive up for the Birthday luncheon on Saturday.

## Personal Updates

**Mary Lou Lakin’s** home was featured in the Holiday Candlelight House Tours in Huntington. The tour is a fund raising project of Arts Resource for the Tri-State (ARTS), a community center for fine arts.

Long time Alpha Chapter member **Elizabeth “Betty” Nichols** passed away on Sunday, January 23, 2011, at the age of 87, after a long battle with Alzheimer’s Disease.

**Suzanne Campbell's** father, George Brownfield, passed away on December 26th.

**Kathy Weekly's** dad passed away on December 15th.

**Kathy Van Horn’s** brother passed away in October.

**Mary Beth Elmore’s** husband David had surgery in January. Mary Beth says that Dave is doing well.

**Suzanne Campbell** thanked members for the Sunshine Basket sent to her after the September meeting.

**Debbie Underwood** thanked Alpha Chapter members for the \$500 scholarship grant. Debbie is working on her doctorate.

## Suggested Committees from International Delta Kappa Gamma

From **Becky Wood**: Under the revised International constitution and standing rules the following committees have been suggested:

Standing committees:

- |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. Society Business             | B. Society Mission and Purposes |
| 1. Communications and Publicity | 1. Educational Excellence       |
| 2. Finance                      | 2. Scholarship                  |
| 3. Leadership Development       | 3. World Fellowship             |
| 4. Membership                   | C. Elected Committee            |
| 5. Nominations                  | 1. Nominations                  |

Definitions/duties

Educational Excellence - promote programs and projects.

Support programs of action that promote the personal well-being, intellectual growth, and global awareness of women educators; encourage a focus on the arts, develop strategies that enable chapters to encourage members to become leaders. Promote professional growth of women educators. Study and recommend action on professional issues and shall urge the state to endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interest of education and woman educators.

Note: Send news to **Phyllis Justice** for the spring edition of Alpha-Bits by March 2, 2011.