

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Big Bend Chapters Initiation, Saturday, October 28, 2017
Elks Club, Tallahassee Florida
Alpha Kappa Minutes
Submitted by Connie Lewis

The meeting was attended by members of Alpha Kappa, Alpha Lambda, Beta Phi and Iota. There were 44 sisters present with 19 from Alpha Kappa.

Introduction: The meeting was presided over by Diane Driggers, President of Alpha Lambda. She introduced special guests and each of the chapter presidents from the Big Bend.

Initiation: The initiation ceremony followed with 10 of the 11 initiates present. The chapter presidents conducted the ceremony. Alpha Kappa welcomes Mary-Margaret Enfinger, Deborah Hannah, and Nancy Rosenbaum. Alpha Lambda welcomes Pam Anderson and Wendy McGuire. Beta Phi welcomes Jan Bennett, Wafa Elsaka, Vernisha Howard, Andrea Notley, and Carol Rice. Each initiate signed the chapter registry, received a rose, a certificate, and her society pin.

Speaker: The guest speaker, our **Mu State President, Carol Ann Casey**, was introduced by Ann Scheib of Beta Phi.

Carol Ann addressed the new initiates, and the members present, about what it means to be in DKG. It is a sisterhood that supports one another. In the past the Society was secret. But today, DKG is working to move into the 21st century, addressing issues to address changes, so the Society remains relevant and does not “dwindle away.” We have issues with getting and retaining members. We need to market ourselves to outsiders and show what benefits are derived from being a member as well as what advantages our community receives from our participation and sponsorships. Our contributions can come in the form of projects, legislative involvement, publishing, AmazonSmile, and support of educational efforts via the Florida Educational Fund, and The National Education Fund, to name a few.

There are many advantages and benefits to members in DKG. There are funds for travel, conferencing, degree seeking, publishing, and recognition through service to the chapter, Mu State, and International as well as involvement in educational community projects. Carol Ann spoke on travel and networking; financial assistance, discounts (insurance, Good Search Capella), Activism, Publishing, Recognition.

Leadership was emphasized as DKG has a wonderful leadership seminar offered to members to get them oriented to becoming effective in their chapters. Members were encouraged to pay back through their expertise as Key Woman Educators. The challenge to all members was to think where we can and will go through DKG in the 21st century. Members were reminded that only through their “activism” in the DKG society can we thrive and survive in the future.

Golden Girls: Four members of the Big Bend chapters were recognized for their participation in DKG for over 50 years. Those honored were:

Alpha Kappa – Anne Black and Rhonda Work, both members for 56 years

Beta Phi – Nancy Kerce, member for 55 years and Louise McMullian, member for 62 years

Lunch: The members recited the blessing before lunch was served. The new members and the golden girls as well as special guests were invited to head the line to the buffet. The meal was delightful topped off with cherry cobbler and ice cream.

Raffle: Each chapter contributed a \$25.00 gift certificate to be raffled off. Members purchased tickets to participate. One hundred eighty dollars was collected which will be divided between Grants-In-Aid and the Woodbery Scholarship. Sandy Byars, Alpha Kappa, conducted the raffle.

Closing: After announcements, the membership, stood, joined hands, and sang the DKG song.

Meeting was adjourned.