



BETA SIGMA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

ALPHA EPSILON STATE INDIANA

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

“Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide”



Members from LAKE, PORTER, JASPER, AND PULASKI COUNTIES

Women Educators Activating Visions in Education

April/May 2016
Issue #12

MAY MEETING



DATE: Thursday – May 12, 2016

PLACE: GINO'S STEAK HOUSE
600 E. 81st Avenue
Merrillville, IN

TIME: 5:00 P.M.

AGENDA: We will be celebrating the 87th birthday of Delta Kappa Gamma. Phyllis Myers (President) and Carol

Shaver (Secretary) will be installed for the 2016-2018 term. Our new member, Anna Urick will be initiated. We will also present our Grant-In-Aid Scholarship to Lori Mitchell, who is presently enrolled at Ivy Tech and has been accepted to IUN in the fast track associate of nursing program. The raffle prize will be provided by Carol Shaver. Each person will order off the menu, which can be found on Gino's webpage. We do need to know if you are coming so that reservations can be made. Please phone or e-mail Phyllis Myers by Friday, May 6th, so we can have an accurate count on the number of attendees.

Phyllis Myers – email: lafishy123@yahoo.com: phone 219-779-9539

Please mark the date on your calendar, **May 12th at 5:00**, and plan to join us for a night of celebration.

DIRECTIONS TO GINO'S STEAK HOUSE

From the East – Take Route 30 west. After you cross I-65, right turn (North) at the next light. Gino's is located just west of the Radisson.

From the West – Take Route 30 east. Continue through the stoplight at Broadway (Rte. 53). Turn left (North) at the next light. Gino's is located just west of the Radisson.

MARCH MEETING NOTES



The March meeting of the Beta Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma was held March 16, 2016, at the Crown Point Library. Gail Woolever gave an educational and enjoyable demonstration on egg decoration, 'Pysanke.' She carefully showed us how the eggs were waxed and the tools needed to cut the wax away, exposing the different colors. She explained the meaning of the symbols that are sketched on each egg, pictured here. Gail has been decorating eggs for over 40 years with each egg taking 30 or more hours to complete. She handles the eggs with dexterity and confidence. You can certainly tell that she enjoys her hobby and each of her eggs is definitely a treasure to behold. Gail has two beautifully decorated eggs in famous locations: one is in the George W. Bush Presidential Library and the other is in the Indiana State House. Delicious refreshments were provided by Joann Epple, Doris Baker and Donna Bottiger. Thank you all! I want to give special thanks to Donna who stepped in on short notice when Doris became ill. We all enjoyed the lovely meal. The door prize was furnished by Penny Agee and won by Kathy Martin.



SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

As I leave the Presidency, I would like to take the time to “thank” everyone for all the support and help that I have received. Susan Elliott, the co-president, was behind the scenes doing all the little things to make my life easier. Barb Shinovich did the newsletter editing, helped with the picture taking, designed the memorial program for Louise Elisha, and generally kept me on track. My very efficient treasurer, Debbie Chappo, filled out forms and had them submitted before I realized they were due. Andrea Polomchak hosted two beautiful Christmas potlucks, organized membership drives and installation ceremonies. Leah Ruth Kensey always

completed the minutes efficiently. Becky Sacopulos presented us with two most deserving scholarship winners. Donna Bottiger and her committee provided unique centerpieces for the Council 1 Brunch and the State Convention. Most important are the active members who tirelessly volunteer to provide door prizes and refreshments for each meeting. When you make a list, you invariably forget someone. If I have forgotten anyone, please realize that it is just my aged brain malfunctioning. Consider yourself thanked. I plan to continue being an active member of DKG and I will be glad to assist the new officers. I have learned a lot and made many new friends.

THANK YOU ALL. – Charlotte Abernethy

COUNCIL 1 MEETING – MARCH 12TH



Ten members of Beta Sigma attended the Council 1 Brunch at Innsbrook Country Club on Saturday, March 12th. The brunch was outstanding, the centerpieces were beautiful and the speaker was inspiring, as she talked about her personal experiences in Africa. She traveled to Africa two times to do research for her doctoral thesis and fell in love with the people. The centerpieces were the “brain child” of Donna Bottiger depicting varied educational subject areas. Many ladies from different chapters commented on how lovely and clever the centerpieces were! Kudos go to Donna and all of our members who donated memorabilia for the constructions of the centerpieces.

Two of the servers were Leah Ruth’s and Barb’s former students. Leah Ruth’s student was from her 3rd grade class at Iddings from many years ago. Barb’s was a student in two of her Spanish classes at PUC. What a delightful reunion!

The Rose Store added a nice touch to the brunch. Attendees were able to browse and shop for lovely DKG items.

DATES TO REMEMBER



C.O.T.T. - Training for officers- June 18th in Lafayette & June 23rd in Bloomington (New officers need to attend only one of these meetings.)

JULY 5-9, 2016 – DKG International Convention in Nashville, Tennessee

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Joann Epple reports that she will be taking her grandchildren to New York City in August. Have a great time, Joann.

I received this note from Doris. "I want to thank my Beta Sigma sisters for all the nice get well cards that were sent to me. It was nice to be thought of and I know it was the kind thoughts and prayers that helped me get well quicker. Guess there comes a time to heed the warnings. Some of us aren't as young as we used to be so we have to slow down a little, but I sure hate to admit it." We are all happy to hear that Doris is better.

Anna Urick and Charlotte Abernethy spent a week in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, playing bridge. They made some new friends, earned some "gold and red" points, and did some hiking in the Great Smokey Mountain National Park.

Barb Shinovich recently visited with member, Olive Leskow. She presented her with three framed collages of photographs depicting past birthdays and award presentations. Olive was absolutely delighted. Unfortunately, Olive fell a few days later. She did not break any bones, but she is very badly bruised. We wish her a speedy recovery.



ALPHA EPSILON STATE

The 2016 state conference was held in Terre Haute on April 23rd at the Sycamore Banquet Center. Phyllis Myers and Charlotte Abernethy represented Beta Sigma. We attended the White Rose Memorial Service for Louise Elisha and Florence Long. We especially enjoyed the Monarch Butterfly session and the Stamping Card session. At the business meeting we were happy to see that Alpha Epsilon State is now operating a couple of thousand dollars in the black due to last year's dues increase. There will not be any increase this year. **State website address: www.deltakappagamma.org/IN**

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA INTERNATIONAL



This is another reminder about registering for the 2016 International Convention in Nashville, TN, July 5-9. To register online, members will need to sign in using the member ID as the username and the default password, dkg2014society. www.dkg.org



cla

Leah Ruth Kensey was born at home on Kelly Street in Hobart, Indiana. She was raised in the Glen Park area of Gary, Indiana, and went to Glen Park School for grade school. She graduated from Lew Wallace High School where William A. Wirt had established the work-study play system. Her first degree was a piano teaching degree from Sherwood Music School in Chicago. She loved teaching piano in her home. Her B.S. degree in education was earned at Olivet Nazarene College in Bourbonnais, Illinois, and her master's degree was earned later from Indiana University.

When she was four years old, so we are told, her Sunday School teacher asked her what she wanted to be when she grew up. She said, "a Mother." God granted her that privilege by giving her a daughter Marla, and three years later, a son, David. Extra blessings were later added with two grandsons, David Leonard and Daniel Stanton.

Her public school teaching was in third grade, for her entire career of 25 years, at Homer Iddings School in Merrillville, Indiana. She and her students were a little family from September to June. She loved watching the "little light bulbs" turn on in their minds.

Leah Ruth became a charter member of Beta Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma with her initiation on May 17, 1970. Being with these educators has enriched her life.

The most exciting and educational learning for her was when she was asked by D. Dean White, Professor at Olivet, to join him and others to teach Chinese Junior High teachers for three months in the summer of 1990, in Dalian, China, with the "English language Institute of China." This was truly an unforgettable experience!

Even at her age, she is still teaching an adult Sunday School Class. Teaching is in her DNA!

Leah Ruth always loved having student teachers and some of them are in Beta Sigma with her, Kathy Martin, Charlene Kamanaroff, Debbie Chappo, and Sue FitzGerald (no longer a member). It is so wonderful to have them as Delta Kappa Gamma sisters. Being in the field of education is SO rewarding.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

As we consider the loss of two members, Louise Elisha and Florence Long, let it be a reminder that life is short and days pass quickly. Remember to enjoy family, friends, and the beauty of the blooming spring flowers. Do not let a day pass without telling the special people in your life that you LOVE them.

Susan Elliott and Charlotte Abernethy
Co-Presidents

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Photos by Barbara Shinovich (shin) & Abernethy (cla)