



ALPHA LAMBDA

**THE DELTA KAPPA
GAMMA SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**

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President's Message



Dear Alpha Lambda Members,

We are off to a wonderful start to the year and before we know it Christmas will be here! Time really does fly when you are having fun! It was wonderful to see so many of you at the first meeting of the year when we had the chance to review chapter programs, approve the budget, and vote on new members.

Alpha Lambda welcomes our new members, Bonnie Cummings, Celia Pruitt, Kay Reeves, and Cristy Sneed, who were initiated along with other women from the Memphis area on October 20, 2012. Helen Perkins was unable to be initiated with the others due to a death in her family. Her initiation ceremony will take place at our Holiday Luncheon on December 1st at Chickasaw Country Club. These ladies are all accomplished educators with a variety of experiences. They will be valued members of our chapter and I know they are willing to say, "Yes," when asked to do something for Delta Kappa Gamma. Our chapter also welcomes Dr. Dona Packer and Dr. Deborah Lowther who transferred their membership to Alpha Lambda. How lucky we are that they chose Alpha Lambda! I was very proud of Becky Sadowski as she spoke to us all at initiation. Becky is truly a key woman educator who continues to positively act on her commitment to Delta Kappa Gamma and very specifically our chapter. She reminded me that day how important what each of us does to positively impact education in our community and around the world. Jane Cummi-sky, Mary Jo Wilson and Martha Bailey provided the table decorations for initiation and Chickasaw Country Club became even more beautiful that day.

I am truly amazed at the generosity of our members. New teachers were supported through the new teacher baskets created from supplies collected at the September 13th meeting. How lucky these new teachers were to receive such a variety of materials to use in their classrooms. Most of us know how expensive teaching can be when we have to buy materials ourselves. The teachers at Porter Leath were overwhelmed with all the supplies that were donated from our collection at initiation. Did you realize how much diapers cost? It has been a long time for me!

All of our efforts so far this year have supported our theme, "Celebrating Women and Diversity." We have other important celebrations and times of fellowship ahead for the remainder of the year and there are many opportunities for each of us to be involved in continuing Alpha Lambda's tradition of success. I continue to challenge you to reach out to someone you don't know very well and get to know them better. Strong relationships between members and our community make Delta Kappa Gamma a truly outstanding organization.

Cathy D. Meredith

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 6, 2012 **4:30 PM**

Program: Claudia Halton (former judge now CEO of A Step Ahead Foundation)

Soup Supper #7
White Station Church of Christ

Dec. 1, 2012 **11:00 AM**

Program: Holiday Entertainment
"Reading Around the Christmas Tree"

Chickasaw Country Club

Dec. 14, 2012 **9:00 AM**

Read Around the Christmas Tree
Aicy Elementary School

Jan. 5, 2013 **10:00 AM**

Program: "New Member Brunch"
White Station Church of Christ

Feb. 12, 2013 **4:30 PM**

Program: "Virtual Tea Sharing"
DeNeuville Learning Center

Feb. 19-20, 2013

Legislative Symposium
Nashville, TN





Alpha Lambda Gets Back to Business

After a three month hiatus from chapter meetings, it was time for Alpha Lambda members to get back to chapter business and our missed fellowship time. First order of business was for outgoing chapter president Chrissie Allen to present our incoming president Cathy Meredith with her brand new chapter president's pin. That makes it official Cathy!!! Congrats and here's looking forward to the next two years under your capable leadership. As stated, this meeting was all about business and there was lots and lots that had to be handled. Minutes from the May meeting had been e-mailed to members and Camille presented the current treasurer's report. Both items were approved by the members. Camille reminded members of the deadlines to pay membership dues and the Initiation luncheon. Martha Bailey, Second VP, brought everyone up to date on the status of the Yearbook and reminded members to double check their personal information before leaving the meeting. The Yearbooks will be sent out electronically in December.



Committee reports were given by several chairs:

- **Finance Committee:** Janice Sorsby presented and explained the chapter budget for the coming year and members voted approval.
- **Program Committee:** Carolyn Taylor, First VP, presented the program theme for the year, "Celebrating Women and Diversity" and the programs that her committee and the Executive Board have selected to honor the theme. In addition to outstanding women speakers scheduled to speak at our meetings, the committee has selected local community agencies that we will support with donations of supplies and time. They have special events scheduled for us also. What a great year they have planned for all of us.
- **Social Committee:** Betty Lou Jones explained that this year the committees assigned as hostesses for each chapter meeting would be responsible for the refreshments at each meetings. Sign-up sheets were passed around for members to sign up for the November Soup Supper.
- **Arts Committee:** Jane Cummiskey informed members that Alpha Lambda is responsible not only for the arrangements for Initiation but we are also responsible for the table decorations. Since she will not be able to attend she asked for volunteers to help her committee members decorate the tables the day of Initiation. She also reminded members that it was not too late to apply for the Arts Retreat that will be held in Collierville.
- **Membership Committee:** Janice Enck presented the list of nominations for membership into DKG and Alpha Lambda. Janice and chapter members provide background on each of the nominees and members unanimously voted into our chapter Bonnie Cummings; Dr. Helen Perkins; Celia Pruitt; Dr. Kay Reeves and Christy Sneed. All five of these outstanding women educators will be as asset to our chapter and we couldn't be happier for them or our chapter. A new member orientation will be held for the new members at the home of Janice Enck. Cathy informed members that we also have two new members that are transferring their DKG membership to our chapter: Dr. Dona Packer from LA and Dr. Deborah Lowther from TX. Deborah couldn't attend today but Dona was present and members made sure to warmly welcome her into our chapter. Welcome to all of our new Alpha Lambda members!!
- **Scholarship Committee:** Becky Sadowski brought members up to date on the changes that were made at International regarding International scholarships. International scholarships were increased from \$6000 to \$10,000 for doctorate degrees. How fantastic is that!! Becky encouraged members to apply for state and International scholarships, as sometimes there are not enough applicants for the all the available scholarships.
- **Personal Growth and Services:** Linda Bond reported on three non-profit community agencies that support women and families in our community. The three agencies will benefit from Alpha Lambda's generosity as they are some of the agencies that we will support this year. (cont.)



Alpha Lambda Gets Back to Business (cont.)

Whew, busy, busy and we weren't finished yet. Chrissie Allen reported on Xi State and congratulated members on the successes that Alpha Lambda experienced there. Our chapter received the Gold Chapter Excellence Award; received the Membership Attendance Award for the most members present; received recognition for our Chapter Arts display and donation to the Silent Auction; had a young DKG member present; had workshop presenters; had state committee chairs and members; had a state officer; had page and table hostesses and supplied their voices to the choir. Way to go Alpha Lambda!!!

Becky Sadowski reported on the entire goings on at the International Convention that many of us were fortunate to attend in New York City. She said the highlight had to be Jeni Souders presiding over the convention and the wonderful job she did. As always, Jeni was gracious, elegant and fun. Becky highlighted some of the speakers, entertainment, workshops and legislation that occurred at the convention. One of the biggest announcements that came out of the convention was the addition of Japan to our organization. How fantastic is that??!!

Cathy followed all the committee reports with an update on everything Xi State and International. She encouraged members to make plans to attend Xi State Convention in June and the Southeast Regional Conference in Orlando in July. She provided dates for the Leadership Management Seminar, the Legislative Symposium, scholarships and grants; the Arts Festival and our upcoming Initiation. She encouraged members to attend and apply for everything offered by DKG

Carolyn Taylor gave details for our Initiation scheduled for Saturday, October 20th at Chickasaw Country Club. The cost of the luncheon is \$22 and this year there is a choice of entrees. Members can choose either salmon or pork for their entrée. Becky Sadowski will be the guest speaker.

Before adjourning the meeting Cathy thanked everyone for their generous donations of teacher and student supplies. Following the singing of the DKG song the meeting was adjourned and members enjoyed refreshments provided by the Social Committee and that wonderful fellowship we all enjoy.



SOOOOOOO GENEROUS!!!

It never ceases to amaze how generous the members of Alpha Lambda are when it comes to our new beginning teachers. Just like in years past, members were asked to bring supplies to be distributed to new elementary, middle and high school teachers in our community. Members were also asked to bring supplies for the children at the Women's Abuse Shelter and the teachers and students at DeNeuille Learning Center. Did I mention how generous you were?? We collected enough supplies to fill numerous baskets, boxes and tote bags. Amy Epps took several over loaded baskets that she will pass out to her ten (count them ten) new teachers at Central High School and Linda Bond took a basket for a new teacher at Willow Oaks Elementary and she will also deliver the box of supplies to DeNeuille Learning Center. Cathy Meredith took three baskets for former students of hers that are starting their first teaching jobs and Camille took the box of supplies for the children at the Women's Abuse Shelter. WOW!!! Can you imagine how thrilled these new teachers will be when they receive their supplies and the difference it will make in their classrooms and their students? Your wonderful generosity will go a long way in helping these new teachers find success in their new profession.



And if that wasn't enough you out did yourselves again in October when we collected items for Porter Leath. You brought diapers, baby products, art supplies, grooming products, baby toys and games just to mention a few of the items you donated. We delivered baskets and boxes of goodies and let me tell you we were greeted with open arms and great big smiles. The director said your kindness and generosity will make a big difference in the lives of the families and children they service. Well done ladies!!!!



WELCOME TO DKG



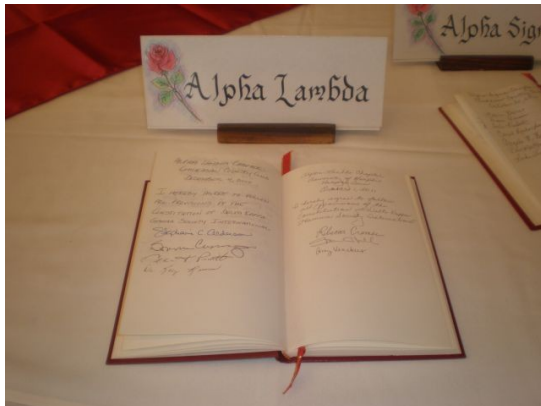
A gorgeous October fall day + a beautiful location + a group of talented, dedicated, outstanding women educators = Delta Kappa Gamma Initiation. On Saturday, October 20th the four Memphis chapters met to initiate its newest members, to spend time together and to enjoy fellowship and a lovely luncheon. Each year the four chapters work closely together to make sure that this event is a special occasion for all of our members, and this year was no exception. Alpha Lambda had selected Chickasaw Country Club as the venue for our event and used fall foliage, festive bow topped pumpkins and scattered acorns and leaves to decorate the luncheon tables.

Beta Iota chapter president Joan Strickland started the event by welcoming everyone and then introduced Barbara McCloskey who gave the invocation and introduced the guests at the head table. She then turned the program over to Beta Gamma who presided over the initiation of our new members. They selected to use the new contemporary ceremony but combined aspects of the traditional ceremony to make the initiation very special and unique. Carol Moling, Patsy Smith, Sharon Brandon, Becky Sadowski and Mary Jo Wilson conducted the ceremony. Each chapter had new initiates and all were deserving of membership in our organization. Our new members Bonnie Cummings, Celia Pruitt, Kay Reeves and Christy Sneed took their turns signing our chapter membership ledger and receiving their long stemmed red roses. Our new member Helen Perkins, who was not able to attend initiation, will be initiated at a later date.



Following initiation it was time for the second part of the event, our luncheon. Carolyn Taylor, our First VP, had worked very closely with the Chickasaw staff to plan a wonderful menu. This year members had their choice of salmon or pork for their entrée and each proved very delicious. However for many of us, the best part of the meal was the dessert!! I mean who wouldn't like a big dip of vanilla ice cream rolled in crushed nuts and topped with chocolate sauce and whipped cream?? Everybody there said yum, yum!!!

To top off this special day, our guest speaker was our very own Becky Sadowski. Becky who is the current Xi State Parliamentarian, International Membership Chair and the 2016 International Convention Chair spoke on the value of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma. She talked about all the benefits our organization offers and that as members we should take advantage of them all. Mary Jo Wilson, speaking as Area IX Director, encouraged members to attend Xi State Convention in June and the Southeast Regional Conference in July. One can only truly experience the entire scope of DKG by attending a convention or conference. How do you end such a perfect day?? The only way possible was by everyone joining together to sing the Delta Kappa Gamma song.





WEST TENNESSE ARTS RETREAT



DKG members arrived from all areas of the state to take part in the Xi State Creative Arts Retreat that was held this year in Collierville. Beta Gamma member Kathy Bradfield, who was chair of the event and her committee did a fantastic job. The retreat was full of fun and creative events, laughter and fellowship. The event started on Friday night with a barbeque dinner with all the trimmings, followed by a wonderful tour and history lesson on St. Matthews Church, one of the oldest churches in the area. Amazing!! The retreat began in earnest when everyone

was divided into groups and given a brown envelope full of bits and pieces of ribbon, flowers, foam letters, jewels and anything else they could think of and a hat. Each group had to create a “designer hat” using the contents of their envelope, come up with a theme for their hat and sing a song as the “model” from each group walked the runway in their group’s creation. What fun!!!



Saturday morning bright and early we met to start taking

part in a variety of classes conducted by Xi State members.

So many to choose from and not enough time to take part in all of them. Bummer!! There were classes on flower making, cake decorating, quilting, crocheting, stamping, creative writing, and storytelling just to mention a few. Our own Jane Cummisky conducted the class on stamping and Carolyn Taylor conducted the class on creative writing. Our good friend Betty Only of Alpha Sigma did a great job conducting the storytelling class. The event concluded with a private lunch at one of

Collierville’s well known restaurants, The Silver Caboose.



Don't miss the
**7th Annual
Soup Supper**

Tuesday, November 6, 2012
White Station Church of Christ

Speaker: Judge Claudia Haltom



Several members traveled to Jackson, Tennessee to enjoy comedian Jeanie Robertson.