



ALPHA LAMBDA

**THE DELTA KAPPA
GAMMA SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**

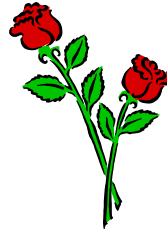
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President's Message



Dear Alpha Lambda Members,

February is the month that is all about love and matters of the heart! Alpha Lambda continually shows love to each other and others in our community. The Virtual Tea Sharing at DeNeuville Learning Center was quite the success and we appreciate all the efforts that went into making it so. Everyone admired the precious tea pots and the beautiful antique tea cups that Debi Gray lovingly shared with us. The hostesses love for our members was evident because they went above and beyond to make this meeting a success. The love continued to flow from each of us as we made special Valentine's Day gifts for over 200 ladies who attend classes at DeNeuville. These ladies are working diligently to improve their lives and the lives of their families. To me, it was an honor to be able to provide a token of love to encourage them as they work to meet their goals. Alpha Lambda has no trouble in showing love to each other and that's one reason why I am glad to be a member. I appreciate the support we give each other and I know it's a way that we keep our "hearts" strong. The Groundhog said we will have an early spring. I am always excited when the days get longer and I can begin to dig in my yard. So, take care of yourselves and stay heart healthy in everything you do.



Cathy D. Meredith

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar. 1-3, 2013**
Leadership Management Seminar
Nashville, TN
- Mar. 18, 2013** **4:30 PM**
Program "DKG Gives"
White Station Church of Christ
- Mar. 23, 2013** **8:00 PM**
"A Chorus Line"
Theatre Memphis
- April 20, 2013** **11:00 AM**
Program: "Founders' Day"
Chickasaw Country Club
- May 7, 2013** **4:30 PM**
Program: "Seis de Mayo"
White Station Church of Christ



*You are cordially invited
to attend the*

*2013 Founders' Day Luncheon
Saturday, April 20, 2013*

at

*Chickasaw Country Club
3395 Gallaway Avenue*

at

11:00 a.m.





AN INVITATION TO A TEA

Remember when you were a little girl and you played dress up and had tea parties with your dolls and stuffed toys?? Fast forward to February 12th and it's the big girls having the tea party and no dolls or toys were invited. Only Alpha Lambda members were invited to this very special tea party. The Program Committee had planned the event way back in the summer but as the event got closer members pitched in to make it a huge success. Linda Bond did a spectacular job selecting the Valentine's Day theme and decorations and organizing the food. From finger sandwiches and chocolate dipped strawberries, members who brought the food made sure it was plentiful and very, very delicious. We really have some outstanding cooks in our chapter and they never fail to impress. Then there was the tea. Linda had selected a variety of different teas and members seemed to find it difficult to



select just the right one to enjoy. But what could we put our tea in?? Members brought a collection of teapots that ranged from silver and ceramic to one that played a jaunty little tune. Debi Gray had earlier volunteered to bring her teacup collection, ones she had inherited from her grandmother, for us to use at our tea. They were all beautiful and very unique and it was really hard to select just one from the collection to use. Everyone had such a great time at the tea party, that it just might become a new Alpha Lambda tradition.



The meeting this month took place at The DeNeuille Learning Center in midtown. Linda Bond introduced our guest speaker, Lori Bramlett who is the new Executive Director of the Center. Mrs. Bramlett explained that the Center is currently serving over 200 women from Memphis and 39 countries. Classes are offered without charge to help prepare the women for GED testing, citizenship

test preparation, resume writing, computer skills and English as a second language. There are also a variety of classes offered in home skills and crafts. Many of the women who take advantage of the Center are often not eligible for other GED classes because of their low reading and math skills. Many of the classes are taught by volunteers. Mrs. Bramlett said there was always a need for volunteers to help teach classes and to help with the day to day workings of the Center. Following questions and answers, she led the members on a tour of the facility.

Of course we didn't forget our Alpha Lambda Cares project for the month of February. The community agency selected for the month was The DeNeuille Learning Center. Again our members went above and beyond with their kind donations. Items donated ranged from lotions and creams, notepads, stationary, school supplies, makeup, perfumes, and candy just to mention a few. Members had a great time assembling gift bags for the students who attend the Center. The gift bags were presented to the students later in the week when they had their Valentine's Day celebration. We were able to make enough gift bags for each student at the Center. Again, this was all due to the overwhelming generosity of our members. You wonderful ladies continue to bring joy and happiness into the lives of many.





2013 LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM



Chrissie Allen and Susan Hoback journeyed to Nashville in February to attend this year's Legislative Symposium. Susan has attended the Symposium before but this was Chrissie's first time to attend and she said it was enjoyable and informative. The event started Tuesday evening with a panel forum with Mr. Ron Pendergrass, TN Retired Teachers Associate Executive Director; Mr. Stephen Smith, Assistant Commissioner of Policy and Legislation and Ms. Gera Summerford, TEA President. Each panel member discussed topics of importance. Mr. Pendergrass talked about the change in retirement for any new hires starting with the 2014 school year. He said they many teachers complain about Tennessee's retirement plan, but we have the sixth best retirement program in the country. Mr. Smith discussed his concern with charter schools and how and who will pay for them in the coming years. Ms. Summerford discussed her concern with teachers in small and rural areas and how their evaluations can be fairly administered. A question and answer period followed.

Bright and early Wednesday morning (we're talking 6:30 am) members attended the traditional Symposium breakfast. Following breakfast, they were introduced to the guest speaker for the morning, Kathleen Airhart, Deputy Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Education. Chrissie said she gave an inspiring speech focusing on her many years as a Special Education teacher. Following breakfast and the speaker, members headed to the Hill to meet with various members of Congress. Why don't you make plans to attend next year?

THANK YOU SOOOOOO MUCH!

For taking part in the following endeavors:

- ** Completing the International Membership Survey for Becky Sadowski
- ** For signing the petition to help save Foreign Language in MCS Middle Schools
- ** For participating as a judge at the citywide student DECA competition
- ** For participating as a judge at the citywide student FCCLA competition



NEW ARRIVAL!!!

Congratulations to new mother, Jessica Orians and to proud grandmother, Beverly Hooker, on the arrival of baby Emmy. Could Emmy possibly continue to follow in the tradition of her mother and grandmother and be a future DKG member?

VOULUNTEERS NEEDED

MCS ArtsFest 2013 scheduled for Saturday, April 6th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm is in need of volunteers to tour and view the art exhibits and performances by music, dance and orchestra groups. Volunteers will work a two hour shift and all they will have to do is complete comment cards on what they see and experience. Members who have worked this event in the past say you will be truly amazed by the work and talent of the students. Please mark your calendar so you will be able to assist in this event. Watch your e-mail for more details and the website to sign up as a volunteer.