



Alpha Chapter Newsletter

Website: www.AlphaChapterDKG.com

AUGUST 2008

ALPHA CHAPTER
ORGANIZED 1937
OF DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZED 1929

From Our President.....

Dear Sisters,

It is hard to believe the summer has gone. Once again, it is that time of anticipation of meeting new students and embarking on a new and exciting journey of learning. Other members have taken journeys to new and exciting locations. I would like to thank Mary McLain who hosted the officer's meeting in June at her beautiful home. In response to member requests, the meetings this year will be held at varying locations around the city. Mark your calendars for the next three months and the new locations. In August, Beverly Smith, Second Vice-President of Xi State, will be visiting with Alpha Chapter. The officers are looking forward to seeing you at the August meeting.

- Janice Nelms

Our Next Meeting is:



Date: Saturday, August 16, 2008

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: New EPB community room.

Devotion: Janice Nelms

Program: "Connectedness and Collegiality"

Guest speaker: Beverly Smith,
Second Vice- President of
Xi State

Be sure to attend!

***Don't miss the beginning of a great
Alpha Chapter year!***



The Spotlight is
on.....

Patsy Williamson

Twenty years ago when I began teaching at Central High School, I was welcomed into a very traditional school by the faculty – one of them being Patsy Williamson. Throughout the year, when there were special occasions, we were always treated like royalty – complete with silver service and out of this world treats from Patsy Williamson and her "crew". Little did I know at that time that Patsy would one day become my "sister".

Let me give you a glimpse of my "sister" who I have the privilege of knowing. Patsy was graduated from Chattanooga High School in 1954 and attended UTK where she received her Bachelor's degree in Home Economics in 1957. She began her teaching career at Central High School which at that time was located on Dodds Avenue and a huge rival of her Alma Mater. She was there for two years and was involved in the excitement of seeing a new school go from the drawing board to being built. The moving experience was just that – moving physically and emotionally as she sold the antiquated equipment that they had been using. Her new home for education would be Highway 58 until she retired in 1995.

Her initiation to Delta Kappa Gamma came in 1981 when she was recommended by Betty Smith Carson and Virginia Summerour. She said it was a very big deal. Her fourth child had just graduated from Central, and she thought that she "might not have time for outside activities".

(continued on page 2)

Patsy says that Linda Knowles and Frances Wilson were inspirations to her since they each had four children and were actively involved in DKG.

Since leaving the classroom, she has been able to spend time with her nine grandchildren and travel to 32 countries. She has been very active in our chapter – serving as President twice (1996-1998 and 2000-2002). She also has served as Vice-President, Social Chairman, and on the Legislative Committee. She serves on the Chattanooga Area Joint Chapters. She has attended state and district meetings where the friendships made there continue to bring her great joy. Her contacts also bring her in touch with the legislators on the state level as she has worked tirelessly to keep education “in front” of them each year during the legislative sessions.

Patsy is one of those people who touch you in a special way. Her influence cannot be measured by any instrument but for those of us who have the pleasure of her “touch” either in the classroom or in other walks of life are truly blessed. Thank you, Patsy, for being such a memorable “sister.”

-Patti Skates

[Mark your calendars NOW for the upcoming Alpha Chapter meetings...](#)

- December 6 at 10:30
- January 10 at 10:30
- February 14 at 10:30
- March 8 - Sunday, 2:00 p.m. Birthday Tea
- April - Date to be announced - Joint Chapters' Founders' Day
- No May meeting
- June 4-6 Xi State Convention, Sewanee
- June 30 - Officer's Planning Meeting
- August 8, 2009
- September 12, 2009

LOOK *What's Coming Up!*

August 16 - Meeting held at the new **EPB Community Room**. You can park on the street for free. There is a charge to park in the EPB parking lot. Car pool if you can!!

August 16- Deadline for reservations for lodging for Xi State Creative Arts Retreat

September 13- Meeting held at the **Ronald McDonald House** at 10:30 a.m.

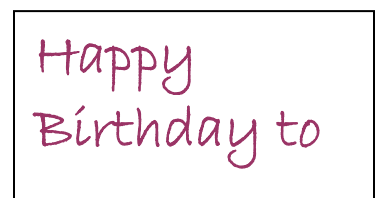
September 13 - Recommendation forms for new members due to Nancy Klein. For a form, go to <http://www.dkgs.affiniscape.com/associations/6498/files/RecommendationforMembershipForm.pdf>

September 15 - Deadline for dues

September 26-27 - Xi State Creative Arts Retreat in Vonore, TN (Read more about this on www.xistate.org)

October 4 - Meeting held at **the Manor House** at 10:30 a.m.

November 18 - Joint Chapters' Initiation 6:00 p.m. Tyner United Methodist Church (New members and their sponsors should be there at 5:30 p.m.)



- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Wanda Grant | August 1 |
| Debbie Erwin | August 27 |
| Shirley Moore | August 28 |
| Helen-Marie Nelson | August 30 |

Xi: Biennium Theme for Xi State
Climb Your Mountain, Reach Your Goal
Xi State Convention

Xi State was privileged to have as the keynote speaker Shelia McKay from the International Delta Kappa Gamma. Members had the opportunity to attend four different informational sessions. This was an extension of the traditional three sessions which had been offered by Xi State previously. At the awards ceremony, members were treated by the singing of Xi State President Nancy Davis. Betty Only spoke at the touching Remembrance Ceremony. Beverly Smith will tell us more about the convention at our first meeting.



**Keep our Sisters
in your thoughts
and prayers....**

Betty Lee - Angie Neeley reports her mom has broken her left arm from a fall. She had to have emergency surgery and 3 pins placed in her arm at her left wrist. She is still recovering.

Elisabeth Keener - in Parkwood Nursing Home

Bea Lyons, Alpha President 1998-2000, is recovering very well from chemotherapy for breast cancer. Bea left Alpha Chapter to be one of the founding members of Gamma Lambda. She plans to return to her teaching position at Chattanooga State this fall.

About Delta Kappa Gamma....

.....arose from the feelings in the minds of its Founders of the need for an organization of women teachers

.....for the betterment of women teachers and the improvement of schools generally

....provides members fellowship, friendship, and support

Our Legacy! Alpha Chapter was organized in 1937 by Mrs. Mary Heatherington MacKinlay. Alpha Chapter has the distinction of being the first chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International organized in the State of Tennessee.

Does Alpha Chapter stay true to the purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma?? You decide!!

- To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
- To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.
- To advance the professional interest and position of women in education.
- To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.
- To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries.
- To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.
- To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

*Do you help Alpha Chapter
with these purposes?*

Alpha Chapter Officers for 2008-2010

President:	Janice Nelms
First Vice-President:	Dr. Patti Skates
Second Vice-President:	Helen-Marie Nelson
Recording Secretary:	Nancy Thompson
Corresponding Secretary:	Serie Bland
Treasurer:	Susan Grow
Parliamentarian:	Marsha Brown



A Few of the Benefits of Membership in Delta Kappa Gamma

- Honor of designation as “Key Woman Educator”
 - Professional respect and recognition
 - Acknowledgement as an essential, integral part of the community
 - Opportunity to identify other key women educators
 - Shared acceptance of Society Purposes and Mission
 - Common focus on achieving educational excellence
 - Mutual desire for personal and profession improvement
 - Fellowship with network of 114,000+ key women educators throughout the world
 - Friendship and fun with professionals sharing similar experiences and objectives
 - Interaction with educators from all levels, disciplines and environments
 - Support and mentoring within membership
 - Source of professional and personal growth
 - Knowledge regarding educational, women’s and children’s issues
 - Professional Society publications
-and many more

Alpha Chapter would like to meet in the home of one of our Sisters for our Birthday Tea. If you would like to volunteer your home, please see Janice Elms, You do not have to furnish food, etc...



BE THINKING
ABOUT PROJECTS
FOR ALPHA
CHAPTER !!

One of the projects for Alpha Chapter this year will be “Books for Babies”. Read more about “Books for Babies” at

<http://www.governorsfoundation.org/index.html>

Can you think of other projects Alpha Chapter should do?

Three Things.....

Three things in life that, once gone, never come back—

Time....Words....Opportunity

Three things in life that are most valuable --
Love...Self-confidence...Friends

Three things in life that are never certain -
Dreams....Success...Fortune

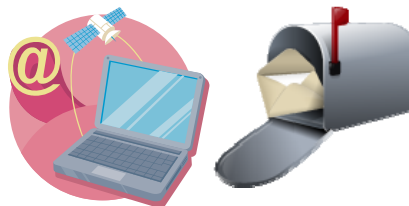
Three things in life that make a man or woman
Hard work...Sincerity...Commitment

Three things in life that, once lost, hard to build-up –

Respect...Trust...Friendship

Wondering where your summer Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin is?

The summer issue is one of two issues per year that are online-only. Visit the Publications page on the Society website to view the Table of Contents and download the articles. Be on the lookout for the fall issue—“The Arts”— in late September.



Eight Ways to Make a Miracle

- 1) *Don't die with your music still inside you.* Listen to your intuitive inner voice, find the passion that stirs your soul and then follow it.
- 2) *Keep this in mind: You can't give away what you don't have.* You can't give happiness if you're unhappy. Create an inventory of love and joy. The universe responds with the same energy that you send out.
- 3) *Embrace silence.* Scientist and religious philosopher Pascal observed that all man's unhappiness comes from his being unable to sit quietly in a room. So make time to be silent.
- 4) *Give up your personal history.* Stop using past abuses and shortcomings to justify self-defeating behaviors. Your past is over!! Focus on the now!
- 5) *Don't become mired in resentment.* When you resent people, you turn the controls of your emotional life over to them.
- 6) *Treat yourself as if you already are what you'd like to be.* Acting "as if" sets in motion the forces that make dreams come true. What you think about expands.
- 7) *Treasure your divinity.* Don't forget that you are a part of God, the ever-present power of love that never abandons you, and never runs dry.
- 8) *Avoid the weakening thoughts of shame, guilt, apathy, fear, and anger.* Thoughts that empower you are of peace, joy, love, and acceptance. Make a conscious decision to take charge of your thinking. Be an optimist!
- 9)



Why is there a Christmas tree in the August Newsletter?

Alpha Chapter would like to meet in the home of one of our Alpha Sisters for our Christmas meeting. If you would like to volunteer your home, please see Janice Nelms. You do not have to furnish food, etc.

If you have had a change in your address, e-mail address, job/school assignment or have retired since the last Alpha Chapter yearbook, please contact Mary McLain at mclain22@bellsouth.net or call her at 344-5643.



Alpha Chapter hopes to include a picture of each Alpha Sister in the yearbook. Please send your picture to Mary McLain at the above e-mail address if you have one you would like us to use. If you have a print picture, you may bring that to the meeting. Mary will scan the picture and then return the original to you.

You may also have your photo taken at the August meeting.

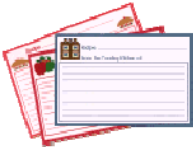
Trust

Trust is what happens when values and behaviors match up.

People are more apt to trust and respect you when what you say and what you do are one and the same.

The highest achievement as a professional is winning the respect and trust of those with whom we work.

--Ken Blanchard & Marc Muecnick
from The Leadship Pill



Recipe of the Month

Mississippi Cream Cheese Pound Cake

- 1 ½ cups butter or margarine
- 1 (8 oz) package cream cheese, softened
- 3 cups sugar (or equivalent of Splenda for baking)
- 6 eggs
- 1 egg yolk
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 3 cups cake flour

- 1) Preheat oven to 325° F. Grease and flour a 12 cup Bundt pan, tube pan or two 9" x 5" loaf pans.
- 2) Combine butter (or margarine), cream cheese, sugar, eggs, egg yolk, and vanilla in large bowl; beat until smooth.
- 3) Add cake flour ½ cup at a time. Stir together until smooth.
- 4) Pour into pan(s). Bake 70 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.



It's time for your dues... **HOWEVER....**

It's time for Alpha Chapter dues; however, the amount has not been set by the officers. Our dues previously were \$50 of which \$35 went to International. This year International has raised their part of the dues to \$40. Alpha Chapter will have to increase its part of the dues. The officers have decided that our membership needs a voice in this decision so....the dues will be voted on at our first meeting, August 16. Be sure to be at the meeting!



Member Responsibilities

- ✚ The obligations of membership should be taken seriously, not only by the prompt payment of dues, but also by the vigorous participation in all activities of the organization.
- ✚ A good member should make a conscientious effort to attend each meeting.
- ✚ A member wears her key at educational gatherings. She takes part in the program when asked and assumes her duties as a committee member seriously.
- ✚ She supports Delta Kappa Gamma policies and works for the recognition and advancement of women.
- ✚ She reads the bulletin and/or newsletter and acquaints herself with current organizational events.



..or e-mail me if you have something you would like placed in the next newsletter. Serie Bland @ 886-7096 or smbland@comcast.net

"Be not afraid of changing slowly; be afraid only of standing still."

-- Chinese Proverb

Be sure to go online and check out DeltaKappaGamma.net and XiState.org

