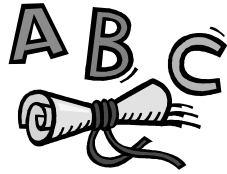


February, 2017



Update

Alpha Beta Chapter, Lambda State, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Barb's Musings

By Barbara Baumann, *AB President*

I'm having a very difficult time focusing on what I want to say in this newsletter. It's not that I don't have anything to say. Instead, it's because I have a major case of brain fog. Let me explain.

My husband and I recently returned from a twelve-day trip to Hawaii. It was a fantastic vacation filled with beautiful weather and sights. The problem seems to be adjusting to the four-hour time difference and being on the go constantly. I've been asked by others what we did in Hawaii. That is such a complicated question to answer since we saw so much. In fact, I lost two pounds while I was gone despite eating cruise ship meals and desserts for seven days. We visited four islands and took tours on all of them. Some of my favorite sights were a helicopter ride over an active volcano at Kona, Hawaii, the Polynesian Cultural Center on Oahu, and Spouting Horn on Kauai.

As much as I loved our "trip of a lifetime", I was thrilled to get back home (especially after 26 hours straight in airports, airplanes, and our car). It took two days to unpack and do laundry, but I'm still trying to catch up on sleep. Vacation is a lot of work!

That said, I hope many of you choose to get away for a few days at the end of April to attend the Lambda State Convention. This will not be a time of extreme exertion. Instead, the convention will allow you to renew friendships, enjoy delicious meals you don't have to cook, celebrate achievements, and learn new things. I hope you can join your Alpha Beta sisters there to represent our chapter.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday,

March 14, 2017

9:00 a.m.

St. Paul Lutheran

Church,

Pontiac

**"Hazle Buck
Ewing: Her Life
and Legacy"**

Travel Plans for the Northeast Regional Conference

Carol Hughes

As we are into the new year, you may now be thinking seriously about those travel plans to attend the Northeast Regional Conference in Windsor on July 12-14. Perhaps you have already decided to come a day early.

How are you traveling? If by auto or air from the US, remember to bring your passport. If flying Porter Airlines from Canada or one of these cities in the US—Boston, MA; Burlington, VT; Chicago (Midway); Newark, NJ; Pittsburgh, PA; Washington DC (Dulles)--Porter is offering a 15 per cent discount to those going to the Northeast Regional Conference and returning between July 7 and July 17. Book online at: <https://flyporter.com/Flight?culture=en-CA&promocode=NRC017>.

If booking through a travel agent the Code is **NRC017**. From US, you will clear immigration on Toronto Island (aka Billy Bishop) rather than Toronto Pearson. Turnaround time is about 20 minutes and then you will fly on to Windsor.

Do you wish to reserve a room now in the Augustus Tower of Caesars Resort and Convention Center? Call the hotel's Reservation Department at 1-800-991-8888 and identify yourself as being part of Delta Kappa Gamma with the group code of ADE0708. The online booking link is: <http://www.totalrewards.com/hotel-reservations?propCode=WCL&groupCode=ADE0708>. The room rate of \$169 in Canadian dollars (about \$126 in US dollars) is good from July 8 to July 16.

If coming early to Windsor, you might enjoy attending one of the pre-conference seminars, which will be held in the morning and afternoon of July 12. **The Underground Railway** features Elise Harding-Davis, an author and a descendant of slaves who escaped to Canada. Windsor was one of the destination cities in the underground railway. In the afternoon participants in this seminar will be taken to the sights outside of Windsor from those days in the mid-1800's.

The other seminar, Indigenous Peoples of the 21st Century, will focus on the history of the residential schools that were founded years ago to teach Indigenous students. Unfortunately, these children were taken miles away from their families and suffered many problems that remain with them today. Charlene Bearhead, a survivor of one of those schools and now the education officer for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, will share her past experiences and ways Indigenous students are being helped today. Ontario member Mary Ellen Gucciardi will speak on her work as a school counselor for Indigenous students.

If you wish to present a Breakout or Ten-minute Takeaway, the application deadline is February 1. The interactive forms are on the website.

The March/April NEWS will have a four-page spread on the Northeast Regional and pre-conference leadership opportunities and information will be posted on the website. If you have questions, feel free to contact me (chughes@mtco.com) as I am happy to answer them.



Be sure to let the chapter know of any name, address, or email changes as they occur. This will keep information coming to you on a timely basis.

News and Notes

Marylee Harms, Karen Harms and Amy VanVleet met on Tuesday, January 17th and reviewed recruitment grant applications. Four very worthy high school girls applied and the committee chose Kylie Miller, from Prairie Central as the high school recipient. She has been notified and a letter sent to those not being chosen to thank them for applying.

Time was spent on the Florence A. Cook application from Ashley Vollmer from Cornell. She did fill out a wonderful application and made suggestions for her to "tweak" the application before she sent it in. We so appreciated Amy's help as a former committee member who was more experienced with sending Ashley's application on-line. Marylee has been in contact with Ashley and she is working on updating her application before we send it to state. We also consulted with Nancy Wier, Educational Excellence Chair, in completing the application. We wish Ashley the very best as her application is reviewed by the state committee.

From Kate Walter- my students and I had a wonderful day with Louann Harms and Marylee Harms on January 23rd. Louann planned an entire day of crafts for my students. We made magic photo books, Chinese lanterns (after Louann told about the Chinese New Year), quilt boxes that hold candy, quilt square, bookmarks, and hearts that told the things we loved most. All my kids had a fantastic day and were excited to share their experiences with other teachers and students. One of my students told another teacher "we were just crafting and loving life all day." I can't thank Louann and Marylee enough for their dedication to education and making learning fun.



INFO FOR YOU

Are you aware of the Scholarships and Study Stipends available from Lambda State? Did you know that the stipends can be used for personal as well as professional growth?

Details can be found on the Lambda State website under Service link on the page.

Deadlines for Foundation for Educational Studies applications are May 1 and October 1. The link for more information can be found under Society Business.

Lambda State Nominations Reports Slate for 2017-2019

The Lambda State Nominations Committee is proud to present the following slate for the 2017-2019 Biennium:

Lambda State Officers

President Dr. Debra LeBlanc, Beta Phi
 First Vice President Beverley Johns, Alpha Phi
 Second Vice President Dr. Joan Rog, Beta Nu
 Recording Secretary Felisha Parsons, Eta
 Corresponding Secretary Dr. Margaret Trybus, Iota

Lambda State Nominations Committee

Area 1 Susan Kaye, Beta Tau
 Area 2 Mary Stayner, Pi
 Area 3 Judith Vaughn, Gamma
 Area 4 Dr. Cyndee Brown, Beta
 Area 5 Barbara Blanco, Nu
 Area 6 Diane Kovach, Psi

Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies Board

Peggy Brown, Beta Iota
 Jan Shawgo, Alpha Nu

Member News: Laura Hughes is the music director for "Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson" which will be playing at the Corn Stock Theatre Winter Playhouse in Peoria on Feb. 10-11, 16-18, at 7:30 pm and Feb. 19 at 2:30 pm.

When reached by email, Elaine Cunningham reported--Just arrived in Fiji after Australia and NZ. I'll write an article for March. We don't get home until Thursday.

Carol Hoffman update-- My children and their families had a Thanksgiving/Christmas in Irving, Texas at the home of my son, Keith. We had a great get-together except when my daughter, Janet, fell into an iron fence—broke her nose and hurt her hamstring in her leg. She was mobile when we flew home from Texas and is fine now.

A few weeks ago, I took my sister-in-law to Cottleville, Missouri to visit my son, Mike and his family. His oldest three children play string instruments and gave a program at a local nursing home there that we all attended. Anna plays the violin; Kate plays the viola; and Zachary plays the cello. Both occasions of family times were great. I wish we were closer in distance.

*The Delta Kappa
Gamma Society
International*

**Lambda State
Alpha Beta Chapter
Livingston, Marshall
and Woodford
Counties, Illinois**

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ABC Sisters Keep Busy

On February 4th Karen Ryan Harms attended the Illinois Holstein (cow) convention in Bloomington. The group honored 50 years of the Illinois Holstein Dutchess - queen. "I had the privilege of judging the 50th contest this past summer. - only one contestant, but she was awesome. The funny historic part is that I was the FIRST ILLINOIS HOLSTEIN DUTCHESS in 1967. It was just after I had graduated from Fairbury-Cropsey High School. There were 12 contestants in the first contest from the different Holstein Clubs in Illinois. We were judged on beauty, charm, appearance, personality and knowledge of the Holstein breed and the dairy industry. We could also suggest a name for the queens and develop the outfit. My mom, sister and I came up with "Dutchess" with a 't' since the Holstein Cow was from the Netherlands. It is still the title today. We also designed a black dress with black and white striped sleeves and a white full apron with a cow head on the pocket of the apron. It DOESN'T fit me anymore, but does fit the 14-year-old granddaughters! I got to ride in parades and pass out ribbons at the State Black and White Show and the State Fair Holstein Show. MEMORIES!!!"



**ABC UPDATE
1705 SUNRISE PT
NORMAL, IL 61761**

From Maggie Janssen- Feb. 1. Sitting at San Antonio airport waiting for flight to Cancun. We just spent 4 glorious days in San Antonio with my 2 sisters and their spouses. We had such fun on a bus tour, a barge ride on the river, dueling pianos, touring The Alamo. We celebrated my 70th birthday with ice cream cake, balloons, and gifts.

So today Bob and I are looking forward to a restful week in Cancun. Upon returning to Pontiac I will start a new Chemo treatment.

John and I are spending the month in Florida near my dad. He's 88, had health issues this past year, and every day together is special. New Orleans was our first stop coming down...my first time there and looking forward to a return visit. We also stopped in Biloxi, Mississippi and Fairhope, Alabama. Road time was also fun as we were listening to "The Whistler" by John Grisham. We have 5 hours left. I can hardly wait to get back on the road! - Connie Rich