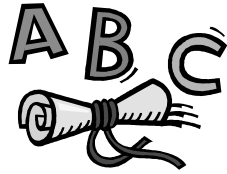


September, 2016



# Update

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

## *Barb's Musings*

*Barb Baumann, AB President*

We are now nearing the end of summer. Schools are open, and students and teachers are working to get back into the school routine. It's an exciting time of the year for educators with a clean school and classroom, new students. What a fantastic opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children.

This time of year also provides the chance for every Alpha Beta member to make a difference in your organization and community. Thank you to officers and those who have so willingly volunteered to chair chapter committees. For chairs, there has been an exciting change. You will no longer be asked to complete a sheet telling what your committee has done and plans to do. Instead, there will be a simple checklist for some committees to fill in so most of your time in committee in September can be spent talking about successes of the past and how you can improve in the future.

The Creative Arts Retreat is from October 7-9. Please consider attending this year. There are so many things to learn and do, and it provides a fantastic opportunity to connect with sisters from all over the state and a few from other states.

I'm looking forward to working with all of you to make this biennium a successful one. Please let me know if you have any ideas of things we can do better as well as any concerns that we can address as a chapter.

**Next Meeting:**  
**Tuesday,**  
**October 11, 2016**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian**  
**Church,**  
**Fairbury**

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Delight Wier, chapter Honorary Member since 1977, passed away on July 16 at Country Comfort Retirement Home in Henry, Illinois. Living on the family farm near Lacon, she taught music, wrote a column "Letter from a Farmer's Wife" for *Prairie Farmer* magazine, and gained a reputation as an inspirational speaker and author. Delight was recognized for her dedication as a mother, teacher, and community volunteer by being named "Illinois Mother of the Year" in 1983.

Delight was predeceased by her husband Ralph and children Daniel and Maryanne. She is survived by a daughter Rebecca (Dale) Lock and sons David (Julie), Timothy (Sandra), Paul (Nancy), and Jonathan (Diane). There are 20 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.



## Chapter Dues Reminder

It's time to pay your Delta Kappa Gamma dues for 2016-17. They are \$90 and checks should be made payable to Alpha Beta Chapter DKG. This includes chapter, state and international dues combined to make the \$90.

You may pay them at the September or October meetings or mail them to Alpha Beta Treasurer, Janet Kilgus, by October 11, the date of the October meeting.

Thank you,  
Janet Kilgus, Treasurer  
10 Timber Ridge Drive  
Fairbury, IL 61739

## Lost and Found at the Gaylord Opryland

### Reflections on International by Carol Hughes

Shirley Mueser and I flew to Nashville for the 2016 DKG International Convention and spent six days at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center. Fortunately the bus that picked us up at the airport could find Opryland--an absolutely beautiful resort—much of it under a glass ceiling. Finding one of the 2830 rooms was quite easy once we found ourselves in the Cascades, one of the 4 sections of this magnificent hotel. However, finding the Convention Center for the opening session involved walking past many rooms, turning corners, passing by the dance contestants who were performing in the center, strolling by restaurants, seeing shops, and even observing an on-site radio station.

Shirley always came later to the meetings since I had to be in the Properties Room by 7:00 am to help with directing 1800 members to their section of the Presidential Hall. (I found that walking very fast I could get there in 6 minutes.) Shirley experienced various areas of Opryland as she says she got lost every morning. Every night we were slightly lost but always could find our way back to our room.

But we FOUND much at the convention such as breakout sessions on many facets of technology, membership, leadership (always I enjoy hearing Muriel O'Tuel), how to adapt to setbacks, and good reads we may have missed. A new activity was attending the 20-minute sessions of Hot Topics which will also be offered at the Lambda State Convention. Cyber sessions were available on a variety of "techy" topics.

We could shop at the DKG Marketplace and in a variety of stores throughout Opryland. We made new DKG friends from all over the US and the other 16 countries.

*(Cont'd on page 3)*



## Reflections on International by Carol Hughes

(Cont'd from p 2)

I especially enjoyed the warm welcome I received from the members from Ontario who will be hosting the Northeast Regional.

We heard some great speakers. My favorite speaker was Judith Viorst who has written children's books like *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, adult fiction, poetry, etc. She is over 80, looks great, and says, "I can still boogie!" Many of her comments related to her most recent book, *Wait For Me, And Other Poems About the Irritations and Consolations of a Long Marriage*, had us thinking and laughing

Over 550 of us traveled to the Wildhorse Saloon in downtown Nashville and experienced a tasty southern barbecue meal, viewed lots of creative sculptures and paintings of horses, and even line danced to the band who actually hailed from southern Illinois near Belleville. A portion of our ticket--\$70--went to support DKGEF (Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation).

The banquet provided some very special memories for me. Again I sang with the DKG chorus. Shirley Newhart, the director was wonderful! Later I was very happy to be installed as the Northeast Regional Director.

Shirley and I stayed until Monday as I met with the 2016-18 International Administrative Board of which I am now a member on Sunday. We were given "homework" to do for the remainder of the summer.

I am not attending our Alpha Beta meeting as I leave for Austin on Sept. 6 and will return Sept. 11. Then it's off to Windsor and Stratford, Ontario on Sept. 15-17 to

meet with the Steering Committee for the Northeast Regional to be held in Windsor on July 12-14, 2017.

Mark your calendars as Windsor is only 6 hours away in a car and 1 ½ hours in a plane from Peoria. Shirley is already figuring out how to travel there from her son's home in Ohio.



Carol and Shirley at the Wildhorse Saloon



### *News and Notes*

Elaine Cunningham had a busy summer with travel overseas and in the states-- My grandson Brayden and I enjoyed our third summer adventure together in July as we spent 15 days in Scotland. I chose the trip because it toured a great deal of the country plus a couple of the islands. We began in Glasgow, then to Stirling where the battle of Stirling Bridge was fought (think Braveheart). Then nearby to the battle of Bannockburn location (think Robert the Bruce) and then to Edinburgh (the castle, Holyrood Palace) where we experienced a traditional Highland Evening and a tour of the Royal Yacht Britannia. Nearby was Rosslyn Chapel (the DaVinci Code) and Abbotsford House, home of Sir Walter Scott. From there we went north to visit the St. Andrews Golf Course, through the Grampian Mountains to Inverness and the Culloden battlefield (the 1746 battle that changed the Highlands forever). Headed further north, we visited Thurso and took the ferry from John O'Groats to the Orkney Islands. More rain, more wind, and colder weather, but great sights (Skara Brae, Skail House, Ring of Brodgar). Back to the mainland and driving south we 'saw' the Loch Ness Monster! Visited Isle of Skye, Isle of Mull, and visited the Abbey on Isle of Iona. Then drove along the 'Bonnie Banks' of Loch Lomond and back to Glasgow and home. I am very interested in Scottish history, so I thoroughly enjoyed seeing the historic battlefields, the castles (Dunrobin, Eilean Donan, Cawdor), and the Highland scenery. It was a great two weeks.

My sister Terry and I decided to do something different in August. My husband and I had spent a week in August in Door County, WI for several years. Terry went with me the last two years. Since I had never been to the Outer Banks, NC, we flew there in August for a week. We chose to visit during one of their hottest weeks! But we did all the important things: drive north to Corolla (didn't get to see the horses,) drive south to take the ferry to Ocracoke Island (nope, didn't see the horses there, either). Visited Jockey's Ridge State Park- home of the tallest natural sand dunes on the Eastern Coast (nope - didn't walk to the top, didn't fly a kite.) Too hot! Visited the Orville and Wilbur Wright National Memorial. Then finally a couple of days to just sit on the deck of our condo and read and look at the Atlantic Ocean. In spite of the heat, we had a wonderful time.

### **Coming Attractions—**

October 7-9 **Creative Arts Retreat**

Lorado Taft Field Campus, Northern Illinois University, Oregon, IL

November 12 **Legislative Seminar**

Lincoln Library, Springfield, IL

Registration forms are on the Lambda State website—

<http://deltakappagamma.org/IL/>

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

**INFO FOR YOU**

Chapter committees—Here is a page for your news and updates! As we try to keep the business meetings to a minimum, this is the place for the details that you want to go to the membership. Please feel free to email me with your info.

*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.*

From Maggie Janssen--

I've had a pretty busy summer. I thought I was done with chemo the middle of January when a PET Scan showed no sign of cancer. Six weeks later I had signs of cancer again. So I did another five sessions. Another PET Scan showed no sign of cancer. I went to Mayo Clinic and biopsies showed Cutaneous T-Cell Lymphoma - different from the Large Cell Anaplastic Lymphoma. I started a different chemo on Sept. 6. This one I do once a week for 3 weeks, then one week off and I start all over again. I just can't seem to kick this cancer. :(

On the pleasant side, we took a 3-week trip across country. We left two days after our Relay, Aug. 5 and headed to Las Vegas to spend 6 days with our daughter, Teri, husband Louis, and our grandson, Carson (8). We spend one day on a pontoon boat out on Lake Mead. It is awesome to see Hoover Dam from the top, but it is really beautiful from the water looking up at the Dam. On our way from Vegas to Berkeley, California we spent a day at Yosemite National Park. We hiked about 6 miles, seeing Half Dome and El Capitan. The sights were simply breathtaking. We arrived in Berkeley to spend 6 days with our son Todd, his wife Amanda, and our grand children Rider (10) and Fiona (6) It was quite a difference from the 110 degrees in Vegas and the 60 degrees in Berkeley. We spent an afternoon at Muir Beach, where Amanda and I sat in beach chairs huddled in fleece and blankets, while the kids played in the frigid water.

On the way back to Illinois we visited Yellowstone and saw "Old Faithful" and many geysers. Then we stopped at Wall Drug, Mt. Rushmore, and the Badlands.

This trip was so great. I loved spending so much time with 3 grandkids I rarely see, but who know us and love us so much.

The first of our journey I received the message from Mayo's that I would need to start the new chemo on the Monday after our Saturday night arrival back home. I just scheduled it and then ignored it for the rest of our trip.

Now we are home and I've started the new chemo. I'm planning to kick this cancer in the butt as I've tried before. I'm just living my life as I want and trying not to worry about this crazy CANCER. It is not going to rule my life.  
Maggie



*The Delta Kappa  
Gamma Society  
International*

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

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309/452-5363  
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## *ABC Sisters Keep Busy*

Kay & Wayne Hammer enjoyed a 2 week excursion aboard America by Rail to the Canadian Rockies. One of the highlights was a 2 night stay at the Fairmont Empress Hotel with high tea one afternoon.

Diane Jontry reports that her family was "looking forward to celebrating Gene's 80th birthday with all our family over Labor Day weekend in a house on the beach of Lake Michigan! There will be 22 of us on the day of his birthday, Sept 3.

Travel update from Sue Schoenherr-- We left the end of June spending two weeks touring in the Canadian Rockies. Stops included Calgary, Banff, Lake Louise, and Jasper via motor coach. The Rocky Mountaineer train took us from Jasper to Quesnel, Whittier, Vancouver, and finally Seattle where we boarded a ship to cruise the Inside Passage. The highlights of the trip were not only the scenery but also the glaciers—actually walked on the Columbia Icefield's Athabasca Glacier and drank its freshly melted glacier water; the beautiful Mendenhall outside Juneau; and the HUGE Hubbard (7 miles wide and 400 feet high at sea level) that continually groaned and cracked as it calved.

Connie Rich and family celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday of her daughter Jessica Sutherland on July 23 with a gathering of 69 family members and friends. Jessica, husband Sean, Marissa (10-1/2), and Macagar (8) were able to squeeze in a trip to the states in the midst of moving from Germany to Aviano, Italy where Sean is stationed with the Air Force. There was a family photo taken with 14 members on a hot Saturday morning.

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

