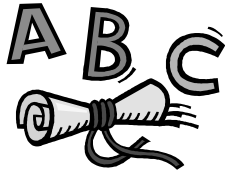


September 2017



update

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

Barb's Musings

By Barbara Baumann, *AB President*

Another summer has come and gone, very quickly. It is difficult to believe my biennium as Alpha Beta President is half over. You have all made my time in this office so far a pleasant one. Thank you for all your support and encouragement.

We have a fantastic lineup of programs scheduled this year, with all meetings at Edinger's Filling Station. Nancy Wier headed the program planning meetings, and her leadership allowed everything to go smoothly. In fact, if we weren't waiting for breakfast and eating, the August meeting would have been over in only a few minutes. When Nancy is President of our chapter next year, we'll be in extremely good hands.

Our speaker, Officer Ross Green, is unable to attend our September meeting due to family issues. He was apologetic and asked that we consider having him present a program later. After speaking with Nancy, we decided we will play an adapted version of the game What Were You Thinking? instead of the program.

Carol Hoffman had a great deal of fun playing it with a small group of people at the Creative Arts Retreat last year and highly recommends it. Since I have never played the game and since we have many players, we will make up our own way to play. I look forward to a fun, relaxing meeting.

We need to be building up our membership. We have recently lost members due to relocating, family needs, and death, but we haven't found new members to replace them. Please be thinking of educators you know who would benefit from our chapter and who will enjoy participation in Alpha Beta. I realize everyone is busy, but there is much to gain from membership.

Looking forward to a new year spending time with my Alpha Beta sisters!

Next Meeting:

Tuesday,

October 10, 2017

5:30 p.m.

Edinger's Filling

Station,

Pontiac



Alpha Beta Dues

It is time to pay your Delta Kappa Gamma dues for 2017-18. They continue to be **\$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 9 or October 10 meetings, or mail them to Janet Kilgus, the Alpha Beta Treasurer, by October 10, the date of the October meeting.

Please help Janet and pay your dues in a timely fashion. She must submit these to Lambda State and DKG International by their deadlines.

Travels and More Travels!

Here is a report from intrepid travelers Sue and Tyler Schoenherr on their recent trip to Norway!

Sue and Tyler Schoenherr spent almost 3 weeks in Norway. We boarded a cruise ship in Bergen winding through and around numerous beautiful islands and fjords making many ports of call. Upon crossing the Arctic Circle, Sue participated in an initiation ceremony: a ladle of ice water and ice cubes were poured down the back of her neck. Tyler opted out of the ceremony BUT he did hold a huge red king crab.

Upon re-crossing, we both swallowed a spoonful of cod liver oil--didn't taste like what we remembered as a child--AND the special spoon was ours to keep. We opted for several tours: seeing a variety of Viking, medieval, and modern churches; an aquarium; music museum; and cities. One highlight was visiting a Sami couple in their home. While enjoying a cup of traditional reindeer broth, we learned about their culture. (Sami are the indigenous reindeer herders of northern Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia--also known as Laplanders.)

At the ship's turn around city of Kirkenes, we could almost say "I can see Russia from here!" During the cruise, the ship was not only at the northernmost but also the easternmost point of Europe. After 11 days, we left the cruise at Trondheim taking a train to Roros, a UNESCO World Heritage site spending two days. It had been the site of a copper mine for almost 400 years and its church has the largest seating capacity of any church in the country: 1600.

Next, we took the train to Oslo where we made excellent use of a hop on/hop off pass for two days visiting the following museums: Norwegian Folk, Viking, Kon-Tiki, nautical history, Nobel Peace Prize, National Gallery, Sculpture Park, and the Royal Palace. From there we boarded a train to Bergen diverting at the top of a mountain to do the "Norway in a Nutshell" trip to take a special train that zig-zagged down the steep mountain side to where we boarded a ferry maneuvering through the narrow steep fjords and then catching another train to Bergen where we spent two days exploring the city.

“News from Northeast Regional”

by Carol Hughes

The largest job I have ever taken on for DKG became a reality July 12-14 in Windsor, Ontario. Because of the dedication and work of Ontario members along with members from other Canadian provinces and the Northeast states, the NERC was a resounding success!

Actually, my obligations at the conference began on Monday as I had to meet with Caesars personnel and attend all the training sessions with the 21 incoming state organization presidents that evening until Wednesday afternoon.

Members came north to experience the culture of Canada. Pre-seminars on the underground railway and indigenous peoples set the mood as did being greeted by constables of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. What a thrill to hear the Schuessler Singers perform as scenes of Canada flashed by!

Charlene Bearhead urged telling the truth about past indigenous education. Roseann Runte related how DKG impacts education worldwide. Vivienne Collinson shared Arctic adventures. Many were touched by Mike Stevens' commitment to teach Inuit youth to play instruments.

The Canada Forum shared highlights from provinces and the US Forum focused on human trafficking.

NERC attendees welcomed changes that simplified the experience: a one-day shorter conference, the Ontario Reception before opening session, state organization photographs taken by members--not professional photographer, television screen where members posted photos, and 10-minute takeaways.

Post-Conference comments included “most inspirational conference I’ve attended,” “I enjoyed emphasis on Canada and its cultures,” and “exceptional speakers and presenters.”

It was very special for me to have my husband Pete come with me. He was involved with the conference going to all the sessions and meals, the underground railway seminar, and breakouts. Members really got to know him as he visited with many. A huge surprise for me was Pete's approaching the stage at a morning session carrying a large vase of red roses, presenting them, and hugging me. Now that caused a stir among the attendees.

In our suite, Illinois members brought in the goodies and drinks for a reception. An enjoyable time was had by all! Our most touching experience was visiting with Mike Stevens, a professional harmonica player who has played many times in Nashville, but Mike is very humble and has such a dedication to helping the indigenous youth of Canada.

Regretfully after the conference, I resigned from being the Northeast Regional Director. Why? Let me just share that at a Women of Faith Conference, I once heard a speaker say, “If you are too busy for family, you are too busy.” Earlier I had approached Pres. Carolyn Pittman who was very understanding. She asked me to suggest a replacement which I did. Aggie Moynihan was on the Ontario Steering Committee as the treasurer and was the Canada Representative a few years ago. I have worked closely with Aggie and will continue to help her when she needs me. She will do an excellent job as the NERD.





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.

News and Notes

Upcoming Lambda State Events!

The Creative Arts Retreat is October 6-8 at the beautiful Loreda Taft campus of Northern Illinois University near Oregon and adjacent to Lowden State Park. Chapter sisters who attended have thoroughly enjoyed the weekend. It is a fun learning experience and a wonderful way to meet members from across the state.

Early Registration is due by September 16 and final registration closes for this event by October 1. Forms are on the Lambda State web site at www.deltakappagamma.org/IL/ for you to fill out and send in with your fee.

Lambda State Calendar

2017

September 15-16 **Lambda State Executive Board Meeting**
Holiday Inn & Suites, Bloomington, IL

October 6-8 **Creative Arts Retreat**
Lorado Taft Field Campus, Northern Illinois University, Oregon, IL

2018

April 20-22 **Lambda State Convention**
The Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, Lombard, IL

June 2 **Training for Chapter Leaders - South**
Central Junior High School, Belleville, IL

June 9 **Training for Chapter Leaders - North**
Ottawa High School, Ottawa, IL - Tentative

July 16-20 **International Convention**
JW Marriott, Austin, TX

September 14-15 **Lambda State Executive Board Meeting**
Holiday Inn & Suites, Bloomington, IL

October 5-7 **Creative Arts Retreat**
Lorado Taft Field Campus, Northern Illinois University

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.

Social Gathering at Lake Bloomington

Several Alpha Beta members and their spouses converged on the Lake Bloomington home of Bert Kinate on August 9. This was a great social time that allowed our husbands a chance to get to know some of the women we spend time with on a monthly basis. Everyone who attended brought one or more dish to share, and the food was delicious.

The Kinates provided the location on the lake, drinks, paper products, burgers on the grill, and were gracious hosts. At the September meeting, I would like to take a collection for the Kinates for all they provided for this special event. I will pass around an envelope during the meeting so those who attended the gathering can donate to provide a little relief to the Kinates for all the time and effort put into their preparation, provision, and clean up. Bert has not asked for this, but it seems that we paid \$5.00 each toward expenses of the January meeting we held at the LCSSU in the past, so it only seems right to help the Kinates with their expenses. This will be donation only.

Member Updates—

Kay and Wayne Hammer enjoyed an exciting excursion with America by Rail through the Canadian wilderness, Saguenay Fjord, Montreal and Quebec City in August.

Russ and Lila spent a week at the Margaritaville Rio Mar Resort in Puerto Rico at the end of August. The resort was only a couple of miles from the El Yunque Rainforest. The highlight for Russ was zip lining--7 "practice" zip lines with the 8th being a mile long over the El Yunque Rainforest. Lila's highlight was NOT having to go on the zip lines, but listening to all the frogs from the Rainforest in the evening, and enjoying the sea breezes. The pool was nice until the day one of the big two-foot long iguanas swam from one end of the pool to the other end. He certainly cleared the pool in a hurry! People were a lot more afraid of him than he was of us!

The Jontry-Curtis clan (26 of us) gathered at Glacier National Park, July 22-29, for our biennial family vacation. We all stayed at the West Glacier KOA, two families in motor homes & the rest in cabins. What a wonderful week of beautiful sightseeing, rafting, horseback riding, hiking, visiting, & EATING! It went too fast!!!

In Memoria

Penny Gomien's husband, Roger, passed away August 27th. Roger had been challenged with Parkinson's Diseases for 22 years. Penny's address is 721 Briar Lane, Morris, 60450.

Former member Mary Fisher-Miller lost her husband Terry Miller to cancer on Sunday, August 22. Her address, if you wish to send a card, is 9 Grandview Drive, Normal 61761

ABC Sisters Keep Busy

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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

**ABC Update Editor:
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Carol Hoffman reports that she has been diagnosed with a recurrence of her cancer. She is upbeat and ready to meet the experts on the treatment the doctors recommend. She had an early celebration of her birthday when her daughter Janet took her by train to Chicago to see the play *Hamilton*. The following is an edited version of their adventures in Chicago.

The two took Amtrak to Chicago where they arrived at 10:00 a.m. and filled their day with sightseeing at Millennium Park and a fabulous lunch at the Berghoff. After the matinee performance of *Hamilton*, they did some souvenir purchases (Garrett's Popcorn!) checked into their room at London House Hotel for a short rest. That evening, a cab ride took them to see a performance of *Aladdin* at another theatre. And this was only the first day.

The next day started with crepes for breakfast at the French Market located at the Ogilvie Transportation Center. A trip to Nordstrom's included professional bra fittings and trying on the beautiful lingerie. Then an Architectural Tour of Chicago on one of Wendella Boats gave them a great background on the river and art. This was a real treat for Carol who had wanted to do this but never had the time. Our travelers got their luggage at their hotel and then headed to Union Station for their trip home. Janet had gotten Business Class tickets that included special amenities that both enjoyed along with their Polish sausage sandwiches and complimentary drinks for the ride home.

Connie Rich reports that although starting her 9th year of retirement, she still notes the school buses on their routes and the sound of the marching band at football games. A busy summer found them attending the International Rotary Convention in June. Afterward, they visited their daughter Jessica and her family who are currently in Panama City, Florida for the next year or two. A fabulous trip to Alaska took place in July. Connie reports, "Of special interest to us was the gold rush history. My husband's great uncle left written diaries of his 3 trips to the Alaskan gold field, which makes for a personal interest. The 2nd week we cruised the inner passage...beautiful scenery, great food, and plenty of time with old and new friends." Trips to Iowa, John's 50-year class reunion, and enjoying being home finished out their summer. Connie will not be at this meeting but plans to see everybody at the October one.

**ABC UPDATE
1705 SUNRISE PT
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