

Author Gary Moore Speaks to Alpha Beta Members and Guests

by Carol Hughes, Roanoke

The Alpha Beta Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met at McDonald's Family Restaurant in Fairbury on February 13.

Members from Alpha Beta and Beta Iota Chapters and other guests heard Gary Moore, author of *Playing with the Enemy*, share about his father's experiences growing up in southern Illinois. Just before his father's death at age 57, he learned that his dad Gene was an outstanding baseball player sought by the Brooklyn Dodgers. He served in the US Navy during World War II, played baseball on the Navy team, and guarded the crew of the captured U-505 submarine. Gene decided to teach the German prisoners how to play the game. That U-boat is displayed today at the Museum of Science and Industry.

A thank you note was read for the \$150 the chapter gave to the Seeds of Hope Foundation which educates children in Guatemala. Also read were letters from third graders who gave advice to their teachers.

Pres. Carol Hoffman (Fairbury) encouraged members to attend the Lambda State Convention on April 15-17 at the Decatur Conference Center as Marianne Hall (Dwight) will be recognized as a 50-year member, Jessica Lawson (East Peoria) will be awarded a stipend of \$1,000 for her past year of completing her master's degree in technology, and Kate Walter (Cullom) will be presenting her Iditarod project for which she received a stipend from the Lambda State Foundation.

Connie Rich (Fairbury), Nominations Chair, presented the slate of officers for the 2016-2018 biennium: President, Barbara Baumann (Minonk); 1st Vice President, Nancy Wier (Eureka); 2nd Vice President Lou Ann Jacobs (Normal); Corresponding Secretary, Kate Walter (Cullom); Recording Secretary, Lila McCulley (Minonk).

Membership Chair Louann Harms (Fairbury) announced the yearly project of awarding 4 grants of \$100 each to early career educators, and members will distribute the forms to non-tenured teachers in local schools. Deadline for applications is March 15.

Lou Ann Jacobs highlighted the Lambda State Leadership Management Seminar which will be held at Bradley University on June 21-22. The Seminar which will offer a variety of workshops on leadership skills is open to both members and non-members.

Professional Affairs Co-chair Marylee Harms (Fairbury) shared that Deborah Johnson will be awarded one of the six Florence A. Cook recruitment grants at the Lambda State Convention.

The next meeting will be held at Edinger's Filling Station in Pontiac on Saturday, March 19, at 9:00 am. Pam Rightsel, a student teacher advisor at ISU, will present the program on current "Teacher Evaluation."

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an honor society that promotes the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. The Society has chapters in 17 countries and serves over 77,000 members by providing scholarships, leadership training, mentoring, and global networking opportunities for women. For more information, visit the website at www.dkg.org or call Carol Hughes at 309-923-7370.

Pictured in photo

Carol Hoffman purchases an autographed copy of *Playing with the Enemy* from author Gary Moore.