



**Pictured in photo:** Members who bought two or more purses display their purchases. Back row: Nancy Wier, Lila McCulley (Minonk), Connie Rich (Fairbury), Carol Hoffman, Barb Baumann, and Louann Harms. Seated: Carol Hughes and Janet Kilgus.

### **Purse Auction Raises Funds for Alpha Beta Chapter Projects**

by Carol Hughes, Roanoke

On March 14 in Chenoa, members of Alpha Beta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society took part in an auction of new or slightly used purses and raised \$636 for chapter projects and grants. Karen Harms (Fairbury) served as the lively auctioneer. Each purse also contained a gift card or gifts worth \$10 which added to the enjoyment of purchasing a purse.

President Nancy Wier (Eureka) conducted a brief business meeting before the auction. She announced that the state Creative Arts Retreat will be at Allerton Park in Monticello on June 28-30. Registration deadline is May 18.

Treasurer Janet Kilgus (Fairbury) reported that the wells in Malawi are now \$450 each and the chapter is collecting donations to purchase a 9<sup>th</sup> well. The chapter received thank you notes for the many projects Alpha Beta supports. Because of a change in the DKG fiscal year, dues are now due by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Ten members plan to attend the DKG-Illinois State Convention on April 26-28 at the Decatur Conference Center and Hotel. These include Barb Baumann (Minonk), Kay Hammer (Fairbury), Karen Harms, Louann Harms (Fairbury), Carol Hoffman (Fairbury), Carol Hughes (Roanoke), Lou Ann Jacobs (Normal), Janet Kilgus (Fairbury) Alberta Kinate (Forrest), and Nancy Wier. Vases of gift cards from members will be raffled at the convention Chapter Mart.

Professional Affairs Co-Chair Karen Harms announced that Brittany Hari (Fairbury) who is an education major at Illinois State University has been awarded a Florence A. Cook Grant of \$1,000, which she will receive at the state convention. Gretchen Hilt, senior from Dwight Township High School who plans to be a teacher, has been selected to receive an Alpha Beta Grant of \$200 at the June meeting. Early Educator Grants of \$100 will also be awarded.

Jan Masching (Dwight), Literacy Chair, announced that board books are being collected for the Aunt Mary's Storybook Project. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 8, at Edinger's Filling Station in Pontiac.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) is an honor society that promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. The Society has chapters in 17 countries and serves over 70,000 members by providing grants for educational projects, scholarships, leadership training, mentoring, and global networking opportunities for women. For more information, visit [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) or contact Carol Hughes ([chughes@mtco.com](mailto:chughes@mtco.com)).