

Life of Hazle Buck Ewing Is Shared with Alpha Beta Chapter

by Carol Hughes, Roanoke

On March 14 at the Alpha Beta Chapter meeting of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pontiac, Director Toni Tucker of the Ewing Cultural Center shared the life and activities of Hazle Buck Ewing, longtime philanthropist in Bloomington who believed in giving back to her community.

Ewing had a number of interests that she supported—conservation, social activism, women's suffrage, education of women, international cultural pursuits and world peace. Her wealth came from her father who had developed a special formula for chewing gum for which the Wrigley Co. gave him 49% of the profits from their company. She gave her home known as Sunset Hill to ISU. Public tours are available on Monday, May-October, from 4-6 pm. Special tours can be arranged by contacting Ewing Cultural Center.

Treasurer Janet Kilgus (Fairbury) reported that the chapter is half way to the purchase of their eighth well in Malawi.

President Barb Baumann (Minonk) announced that seven members will attend the Lambda State Convention on April 21-23 at the Hotel Frontenac in St. Louis. Gift cards are being sought for the raffle at the Chapter Bazaar at which convention attendees will assist. She also announced that board books continue to be collected for the Aunt Mary's Storybook Project.

Members who will be receiving certificates for their number of years of membership are as follows: Carol Hughes (Roanoke) - 50, Elaine Cunningham (Minonk) - 45, Janet Kilgus - 40, and Jari Lynn Oncken (Minonk) – 40.

Professional Affairs Co-Chair Karen Harms (Fairbury) announced that Kylie Miller, senior from Prairie Central High School, has been selected to receive the Alpha Beta Grant of \$200 at the May meeting. Early Educator Grants of \$100 will also be awarded at the meeting. Alpha Beta's candidate Ashley Vollmer who attends college in Joliet will receive one of the Lambda State Florence A. Cook Recruitment Grants in the amount of \$2,000 at the state convention.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 6, at Edinger's Filling Station in Pontiac at 9:00 am. Tammy Potts, ILLINOIS READS Committee Chair, will share the goals of ILLINOIS READS and the reading programs that are available for various age groups. ILLINOIS READS was created by the Illinois Reading Council and chaired by Secretary of State Jesse White. Professional Development hours are available.

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 almost 75,000 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:



Director Toni Tucker (center) shares about Sunset Hill, once the home of Hazle Buck Ewing, her husband Davis and children, to Karen Harms and Barb Ward (Fairbury).