

MINUTES OF EPSILON CHAPTER, DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
August 26, 2006
Rowan Public Library

President Gerri Blackwelder opened the meeting with a warm greeting, thanking members for their presence and support.

The late Mrs. Julia Slate was memorialized in a touching tribute given by former student and friend, Marsha Wood. A member of Delta Kappa Gamma since 1944, Mrs. Slate was remembered for her patient, gracious, and supportive attitude of others within her own classroom and throughout her life. Mrs. Wood shared with members her own personal and treasured Christmas keepsake crafted by Mrs. Slate as evidence of her loving and generous spirit.

Members made contributions to the scholarship fund as the baskets were passed. Jennifer Lentz and Shirley Disseler will be offered help from the fund as they pursue their educational goals. Other qualifying candidates from within the chapter are encouraged to contact Susan Waller for consideration.

Mrs. Ollie McKnight assured the group of her continued recovery from recent heart valve replacement surgery. A note was read from Sharon Deal thanking members for their heart-felt support and sympathy in the death of her mother, Mrs. Geneva Luther. Miss Ruby Knox has requested reserve status within the chapter. Members were asked to remember Miss Anna Lois Knox who is currently very ill.

Superintendent Dr. Judy Grissom has requested members consider her for reinstatement to the Epsilon Chapter. Delores Morris made a motion to accept this request. Carol Miller seconded it.

New officers were introduced for the 2006 - 2008 term. Members were asked to recommend student artists who can help design note cards for a fund-raising project. Those members who know of likely candidates can contact Cindy Pope. Proceeds will be used to develop and maintain our webpage (www.epsilon-deltakappagamma.org) and contribute to other selected projects.

Members were reminded to pick up their updated fall addendum in the foyer. Joan Ashley gave the treasurer's report. Kristi Henry reported she will email newsletters, citing the cost of postage and publishing, unless individuals request a mailed copy.

An uplifting devotional message was given by Patti Secreast as she shared the specs God followed while creating the teacher. She followed this story with a teacher defending her career choice to a CEO, reminding all members that what a teacher makes is not measured in salary but in the molding of students' minds and characters.

Guest speaker, Vicky Slusser, from Communities in Schools, presented information on this nonprofit organization. She stated volunteers are always needed to commit to mentoring one needy student. Background checks and training are part of the process. Communities in Schools currently serve five elementary schools in the county. The organization receives partial funding from the Woodson Foundation, Chamber of Commerce, and fundraisers. Susan Mesimer made a motion to make a donation to this organization and this was seconded by Betty Brown.

The meeting was then adjourned by Gerri Blackwelder for additional fellowship.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Foster, corresponding secretary.