Live, Learn, Teach, and Grow Together

Epsilon Chapter News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Rowan County,, NC | www.deltakappagamma-epsilon.org | Region VIII

Volume IV, No. 2 | October, 2007

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Second Meeting:
October 25, 2007
Rowan Public Library

Devotions:
Phares Sechler
Greeters:
Pat MaGuire, Chair
Attendance:
Marie Carmichael, Chair
Hostess:
Martha Hurley, Chair

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A Message from Epsilon

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International President, Dr. Day is Delightful Lunch Mate and Inspirational Speaker

Most women who wear black suits look professional, accomplished, even commanding , but Dr. Barbara Day, appearing at the opening session of the Eta State biennium , burned with passion that belied the severe black suit. Her passion for Delta Kappa Gamma, for women, and for women's abilities was visible as she spoke fluently and confidently, sharing her dreams for The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International under her leadership.

Interestingly a friend from the North Carolina English Teacher's Association and I chose a table at the back of the elegantly appointed dining hall, when we were joined by Dr. Day and past president Lynn Leatherwood. Conversations at table rambled from real estate to school climates; usual fare for teacher types. Dr. Day was astute in including many in the conversation and in showing interest in her fellow North Carolina sisters. But when Day was called to address the session, she stood with what one may call an alarming confidence in the dreams that women share throughout the world. Day has focused her passions into 8 key initiatives for Delta Kappa Gamma and encour aged the voting membership to select three for Eta State programming for 2007-2008. Those initiatives will be announced in the next Eta State Newsletter.

As key women educators, let's join in this effort and engage ourselves and our resources to support the initiatives outlined and embraced by the international organization !

Dr. Elaine Stiller steps in to Fill Role as Treasurer

At the August 25 meeting of Epsilon, the Executive Board met and approved the nomination of Dr. Elaine Stiller as Treasurer of our Chapter. Stiller assumed the role immediately under the tutorage of Elizabeth Rich, who held the position of 15 years prior to Joan Ashley's appointment in 2006. Betsy will remain in her role as temporary/ assistant Treasurer until Stiller has been fully trained. We are thankful to Rich for an enormous dedication and willingness to serve us again and going through our membership dues payments.

Many of you know that the busy time for the Treasury is September through November. The bulk of income and payments takes place during those months. Please welcome Dr. Stiller as Treasurer and thank her for assuming this essential and demanding position with us.

THANK YOU FOR EXPANSIONDOLLARS FOR DENMARK

Immediate Past President Lynn Leather wept openly as she thanked the Eta chapters who gave so generously to the expansion project for Denmark. Epsilon members joined in the effort by sending a donation of $75.00 to pay for the initiation banners, pins, and other paraphernalia for the installation of the founders of the Danish chapter.

The project to support Denmark's initial Delta Kappa Gamma chapter was a suggestion from Dr. Day to allow Eta State Chapters the honor of supporting international expansion.

Leatherwood reported that the effort, though not budgeted, was fully funded through generous financial commitments from various local chapters and that all materials for installation at the cost of fifteen hundred dollars was purchased. Leatherwood went to Denmark to personally present the materials and to pin the Charter Members.

I personally thank all members who were present at the Waterworks meeting and who voted to send money to assist with this project. Such generous giving by Epsilon and other chapters in North Carolina has prompted several states to request that they have the opportunity to support the future expansion.

Dear Friend,

If you have enjoyed the second cup of coffee and have your feet up comfortably, call a friend...and remind her of the October meeting!

Spend time with friends, enjoy refreshments in a convenient setting, and learn about the Teacher Cadet Program in Rowan County at **our next meeting October 25th at 3:30 At the Rowan Public Library.** Share a ride to the library to conserve gas and to renew relationships!

Our Website address has **changed**!

Please visit us at our new home:

www.deltakappagamma-epsilon.org

This move will save money and will provide availability of information quickly and efficiently. If you have news that needs to be shared quickly, please contact Gerrie Blackwelder for publication of information on the page.

EPSILON WINS MEMBERSHIP Mileage Challenge!

Epsilon has met the membership mileage challenge issued by Eta State last year. The challenge to continue to grow by five members over a two year stretch has placed Epsilon in an enviable position. We are keeping abreast of national challenges in membership! The top states by membership are Texas, California, Ohio and NORTH CAROLINA! Several states are openly challenging Eta state for the number four position, so it is essential in the spirit of competition as well as the spirit of honoring key women educators that we continue to encourage young women to participate in a community of learners, to engage in issues that effect women in the workplace and promote those women who seek to touch the lives of America's young people.

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

Thanks to those who invited our new members to join us in our growth!

Musings by Joan

I Have to Take This More Seriously *by Joan Ashley*

I call the radiation team The Firing Squad.

When you glow in the dark you don't have to turn the light on to g to the bathroom. But your husband has to cover his face with a baseball cap.

I'm getting use to the little round steroid face. It's smoothed out all the wrinkles. But I'm afraid that when the swelling goes down my face will collapse.

I really hate when my hair falls in my food. On the other hand, I'm getting lots of fiber. (Oops! That was utterly tasteless. No pun intended—maybe.)

Every day I have to give my name and birth date when I go for treatment. But sometimes it comes out something like "Genesis 12:37". (You know what? I was one of the first babies born when Rowan Memorial opened its nursery in 1937. It was also the year Amelia Earhart got lost, and the Hindenburg blew up. But on the positive side, the Golden Bridge opened.)

So far I still have some hair on the right side. I'm getting pretty good at the "comb-over". But what to do except the caps? Maybe I might draw pictures on the left side, or hang flowers on the caps, challenges, challenges.

Well, I'm supposed to restrict my liquid intake to 1 liter per day. Also, I'm to get as much salt in my diet as possible. Hmm! It takes a lot of water to swallow the horse pills. I wonder if the doctors have actually tried to do this? But I'm getting more inventive. I am using yogurt to swallow some if it.

I am getting use to fat ankles. They help you keep your shoes on!
Humor is a priceless gift, isn't it? And so are friends. So many wonderful women in this organization! And I love and treasure you all.

Joan Ashley is Immediate Past President and former Treasurer of Epsilon

Joyce Simmons is a Silent Angel

We are thankful for Joyce Simmons who so thoughtfully reminds of us of members who are unable to attend our meetings for various reasons of health and misfortune.
Joyce takes responsibility of sending cards, flowers, and thoughtful notes to those who are unable to attend meetings regularly. Please continue to send cards, notes, and good wishes to absentees and give a special thanks to Joyce for her constant vigilance!

PLEASE send a note or message to Joyce or to Gerrie Blackwelder if you are aware of someone who needs our care.

-Dates to Remember-

Next Meeting

Thursday

October 25, 2007 RPL 3:30

Lina Drinkard– Teacher Cadets

Scholarship Applications due December 31, 2007

Thursday, January 10, 2008

Lillian Morgan – ESOL / Migrant Education

Red Book

inserts are available at the next meeting for pick up. Please see **Sharon Deal** for your copy. Also, see **Elizabeth Rich** for membership dues if you have not already done so.

Mission Statement

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Minutes of Meeting: August 25, 2007

President Gerrie Blackwelder opened the meeting and presented a devotional message from The Prophet.

Members were asked if there was interest in eliminating the temporary white name tags a replacing those with a more uniform red appearance. This idea was endorsed by all who were present.

Chairman of the Financial Committee, Sue Wall, presented the proposed budget for the upcoming year. It was noted that there would be no cost in maintaining the chapter's web site for the current year. The motion was made by Phares Sechler to reimburse any personal expense already incurred by members in the maintenance of this site. This was seconded. Expense funds provided for the president to attend the state convention were also changed to $300.00 as stated in the bylaws. The budget was then approved. The financial committee was recognized for receiving a successful audit during the 2006 - 200 year.

It was announced that scholarship money is again available this year

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For any member pursuing higher education. New and previous recipients are eligible to apply by December 31, 2008.

A student artist, or current member of the chapter, is being sought to design a rose insignia for the note card project, which is still in planning stages. President Blackwelder reported that the cost of this is feasible for a limited run this year.

Betsy Rich was introduced as interim treasurer, replacing Joan Ashley in that office. Members were encouraged to send their yearly dues and reminder notes will be sent to others. Active members will pay $50.00 and reserve members will pay $35.00. Dues are then expected to increase in 2008 to remain in line with other Delta Kappa Gamma chapters.

Epsilon members are encouraged to send note of encouragement to sick and shut-in members. Joan Ashley spoke of the tremendous support she has received in recent weeks and thanked everyone for their encouraging words.

President Blackwelder asked for input in generating enthusiasm for recruiting new member and revitalizing the spirit of Epsilon members. Ideas for thought included the formation of special interest meetings for small groups which might involve book clubs, watercolor painting, or other hobbies. Interested women should contact Gerri Blackwelder.

The Friends of the Library organization is in need of small items to create gift baskets. Desired items include mugs, gently used books, and other treats. This organization sponsors many educational activities including: Stories by the Millstream Festival and Summer Reading Program.

A note of thanks was received from Victory Junction for donation of $300.

Sharon Deal reminded all members to pick-up their new directories also those that could readily delivered to absent educators. All remaining directories will be mailed.

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Barbara Day's Leadership Initiatives

Invite Membership Explosion
Support New Teachers
Promote Wise, Passionate Living
Expand Internationally

Promote Arts, Women Artists
Craft Research Based Legislative
Hire PR Firm to Define Image, Create Society Brand
Move into Electronic Age Through Publications

Minutes from August 25 Continued from page 4

Adair Doran introduced the program "Book Talk" for the morning's discussion. The group divided into lively groups to share their summer reading lists with one another

The Executive Committee received the nomination of Dr. Elaine Stiller, and approved her installation as active treasurer of the Epsilon Chapter, for the remaining 2006-2008 term. She replaces interim treasurer, Betsy Rich.

The meeting was then adjourned until October 25.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Foster,

Corresponding Secretary

Changes of Address:

Beth Walton - t.l.walton@worldnet.att.net
Phyllis Martin - pamar2@bellsouth.net
Phares Sechler - pharesphish@cvamerica.net
Susan Waller - srwaller70@yahoo.com
Barbara Moose-bmoose@carolina.rr.com

Please check for accuracy and let Gerrie know if there are further changes in address!

Attention New Members and Old...

New Nametags Available To All Members

Those who serve the Attendance Committee have noticed that we have various types of name tags and an upgrade to consistently designed, matching tags is in order. The Eta State International Affairs Committee is currently reopening the red name tag sale to earn funds for international giving.

To support that effort locally by having matching tags, and to participate in an International Affairs project of our own, it is suggested that we offer the purchase of the official Red and Gold Ribboned name tags to our members. As a veteran member, you might already have a famed, be-ribboned, red tag, but the new style offering is one with magnets on the back which do not pierce clothing.

Cost -$20.00 each

To Order – Make checks payable to Epsilon Chapter and give to Gerrie Blackwelder