



Alpha Rho News

January 2017

Volume 37, Number 6

Editor ~ Sandra Posey

DKG

**Epsilon State
Celebrating our Past**

**Advancing our
Future**

Alpha Rho Chapter Officers

Margene Watters -
President

Susan Alexander - 1st
VP

Teri Schalewski - 2nd VP

Kelle Ogilvie - Recording
Secretary

Sandra Posey -
Corresponding Secretary

Ann Allred - Treasurer

Denise Wood -
Parliamentary Advisor

Jennifer Campbell -
Historian

Mary Lynn Owens - Past
President

Alpha Rho Sisters,

Happy 2017!
I hope 2017 brings you
joy and success in your
life. As we begin 2017 in
our Alpha Rho Chapter
may we remember our
Epsilon State President
Judy Rongey's message
"Make a Difference".

Let's do that ! Come be a
part of Alpha Rho's
meetings and activities.
YOU can make a
difference!

May the following
thoughts inspire each of
us in our own lives and as
a member of a great
organization-Alpha Rho
Chapter of Delta Kappa
Gamma.

You could consider a
new beginning as the
start of a new year. A
fresh start, a new goal,
a year to make your
dreams come true. Be
determined and
persevere." *Catherine
Pulsifer*

Every day is a chance
to begin again. Don't
focus on the failures of
yesterday, start today
with positive thoughts
and expectations."
[Catherine Pulsifer](#)

*Epsilon State
Celebrating Our
Past,
Advancing Our
Future*

Sincerely,
Margene R. Watters
Alpha Rho Chapter
President



**MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR:**

MARCH 24-26
Epsilon State
Convention
Hilton New Orleans
Airport, Kenner

JULY 19-22
Southeast
Regional
Meeting
Myrtle Beach
Convention Center

Please send YOUR
news & photos to
our editor,
Sandra Posey, at
slpoz@me.com

Registration for **State
Convention** is due by
February 24, 2017, at a
cost of **\$25**.

Registration cost **after**
February 24th is **\$40**.

Registration forms will
be available at the next
meeting OR you can go
online and register.
Hope you can go!

Saturday, February 11

Lunch – Dutch Treat
River City Grill
1903 Benton Road
Bossier City, LA

World Fellowship/Invite Prospective Members

Hostesses: World Fellowship, Membership, Research
Committees

Bring World Fellowship Donations.

Information about Grandmother's Button jewelry will be
available.

Come find out what it is all about!



Mission Statement:

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

ALPHA RHO OF DKG DECEMBER 1, 2016 - HOME OF MARY GLASS

The December meeting was called to order by Margene Watters, President. Pam Haley led the collect.

Margene thanked Mary Glass for graciously hosting the meeting in her beautiful home and preparing gumbo for our enjoyment. The hostesses were also recognized and expressed appreciation to them. The hosting committees were nominations, music, and finance.

The program "Feed My Sheep/Feed the Homeless" was led by Ms. Kim Hawkins and Ms. Johnson. They explained to members present about the meals that are provided for the homeless each Saturday in downtown Shreveport. It is a volunteer program and invited us to participate as we wish. They also shared some of their experiences with the Saturday program and its positive success. They were very informative, enthusiastic, and passionate about the service. Ms. Hawkins and Ms. Johnson were presented with a large number of needed items for the homeless program which were provided by Alpha Rho members present. The leaders were most appreciative of the variety and abundance of items collected.

The business meeting began with the reading of the minutes by Margene Watters (in absence of Secretary Kelly Ogilvie), followed by the treasurer's report given by Ann Allred. Lynn Owens made a motion that the minutes and treasurer's report be accepted as read and Mary Lou Hughes seconded. Minutes and treasurer's report were approved as voted by members present.

In old business, Lynn Owens gave a report on the Northwest District Meeting on Saturday, October 29, 2016. She reported there were 62 DKG members present with 7 from our chapter. The Books for Babes project exceeded the goal. Kathye Blackburn also reported that members present made a significant contribution to the Schools of Africa Project. The district meeting was very informative and enjoyable. It was concluded with a delicious lunch.

In new business, Margene informed the members that registration for the state convention is now available online. First Timer's Basket theme ideas for our chapter were discussed and chosen. Alpha Rho's basket theme for state convention 2017 is "Southern Belles". It was agreed that this would allow for a multitude and variety of item selections.

Also in new business, it was reported that two members have requested to discontinue membership. They are Katie Crawford and Melinda Lain. Also, Shelly Bilhm has requested to be placed on inactive status. Motion was made by Lynn Owens to accept the requests in good standing. Debra Mullinnix seconded. All members voted in favor of motion.

The following announcements were made:

Next chapter meeting is Saturday, February 11, 2017 at River City Grill at 11:00 AM. Please note date change. Hosting committees are world fellowship, membership, and research. Bring world fellowship donations. Invite prospective members.

The meeting was concluded with an inspirational story presented by Margene Watters entitled "For the Man Who Hated Christmas". Margene wished all a Christmas that is filled with love, joy, and peace. The meeting was adjourned with the singing of "Silent Night".

Fun, fellowship and delicious gumbo prepared by Mary Glass was enjoyed by all.

ALPHA RHO SISTERS AT REGIONAL MEETING



Silent Auction

Take a look in that gift closet! See if you can find a new or "gently used" item for the Non-dues Income Silent Auction. This activity has been a huge success at the past two conventions. It is a way for members to make voluntary contributions to our state treasury while getting a little something in return. The success of the auction helps to keep our budget balanced without a dues increase. ~Thank you!



First Timers Basket

Each chapter provides a First Timers Basket for the convention. Our theme this year is "Southern Belles" Please bring items to the February and March meetings to fill the basket. If you wish you can also contact me and I will see that someone gets them for the basket.

(musicwatters@aol.com or 318-965-5022home phone)

Baskets must be "contained," no larger than 2ft. x 2ft. and include a list of contents. Theme Basket donations provide a one-time stipend towards the registration fee of an Epsilon State member attending her first International Convention or her first Southeast Regional Conference.)



Find more news online:

Visit our website - dkg-la-alpharho.weebly.com
Epsilon State Website - www.epsilonstatedkg.org
International Website - www.dkg.org

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #156, DECEMBER 2016

This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 80,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to the editor Angela O. Bedenbaugh at Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com. We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

WHAT PASSED AND BECAME LAW (The summaries below are taken from the Congressional record.)

1. S.1867 International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders
2. S.1482 Need-Based Educational Aid Act of 2015 -- This bill amends the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 to extend through FY2022 the antitrust exemption that allows institutions of higher education that admit all students on a need-blind basis to enter or attempt to enter into agreements among themselves regarding the administration of need-based financial aid.
3. S.612 This bill amends the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 to extend through FY2022 the antitrust exemption that allows institutions of higher education that admit all students on a need-blind basis to enter or attempt to enter into agreements among themselves regarding the administration of need-based financial aid.
4. S.524 Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 -- HHS must advance education and awareness regarding the risk of abuse of prescription opioids if they are not taken as prescribed. (Opioids are drugs with effects similar to opium, such as certain pain medications and heroin. A more complete summary (Can be found at Congress.gov.)
5. H.R. 2576 Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act -- This bill amends the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to revise the process and requirements for evaluating and determining whether regulatory control of a chemical is warranted.

Passed the House but was not acted on in the Senate.

H.R.5587 Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act

This bill reauthorizes through FY2022 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, divides career and technical education (CTE) students into CTE concentrators and CTE participants, and revises requirements for within-state funding allocations.

STUDENT LOAN RELIEF

Of the five or more bills to provide financial relief for those with substantial student loan obligations none made it out of committee and to the floor of either chamber for a vote.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, CONTINUED

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Drug patents apply from the moment that a new drug is discovered and the patent protection is good for twenty years. In fact, the time when a drug is on the market and protected by a patent is considerably less than twenty years because the average time it takes to gain approval from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is eight years. After the patent protection expires generic versions of popular drugs which are much less costly are manufactured and sold. Drug companies often extend patent life by combining two or more drugs on which the patent has expired thus gaining a new patent. If one knows that a prescribed drug is a combination of cheaper drugs, it is possible to get prescriptions for the each of the component drugs and save a considerable amount of money.

Recently the cost of prescription drugs has been skyrocketing. The cost of two medications in particular is of great concern as these medications are the difference between life and death. One is insulin in treating diabetes and the second is the epipen which delivers epinephrine to an individual in the throes of a life threatening allergic reaction.

EpiPens cost less than \$100 in France, slightly over \$200 in Germany, and a two-pack retails for \$615 to \$650 in New York City. The production cost for EpiPens was only \$57 a shot when Mylan (the current producer) took over sales in 2007. To further raise the cost, the pens have a limited shelf life, but the person needing the medication must keep a viable pen on hand in case of emergency. The pens in the US are only available in packs of two and have a shelf life of 12-18 months before they become ineffective. This means that often pens become ineffective prior to need and have to be replaced without being used.

Insulin costs have also increased considerably regardless of the type of insulin being used. Because there are a number of insulin medications on the market a cost comparison is beyond the scope of this publication.

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

With the discovery of excessive lead in the water in Flint, Michigan, the question arises “how safe is the water that I use daily?” Lead in water can come from several sources. The pipes themselves can be made of lead or the pipes can be joined together using a lead solder. Lead pipes were commonly used well into the 20th century, so if you are living in a home that was built before 1920 there is a good possibility that, unless the plumbing has been replaced, the plumbing in the house is lead or is joined by lead solder. The other source of lead in drinking water is pipes in the community water supply which were either made of lead or soldered together with lead solder. You can ask your local water supplier about whether or not your water has been tested for lead and if it has been tested request the results of the test. Even if the local water has been tested and does not contain appreciable lead, your tap water may contain unacceptable amounts of lead. You can have water in your house, school or other facility tested at a laboratory which does this type of analysis.

FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK

For those of you desiring discussion of legislative topics there is a U. S. Forum Facebook page online at <http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

FORUM WEB SITE: <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard 1-866-327-8670 [this is a toll free number]. You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

Email access and addresses

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate