



# Alpha Iota



October 2014  
DKG

## Small in Numbers, Tons of Fun

Our October 4th meeting was a "round table" format and so much fun! Laura Michelle Woods, presided over her first meeting, as President. Anita Thomaston presented a unique inspiration by playing "It is Well with My Soul" on the piano. Then, she shared the background of the lyrics by Horatio Spafford.

As Kathy read our minutes from the last meeting, we discovered her talent as a writer and storyteller. A thank you note from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital was

shared by Anita. Laura Michelle, Deborah and Cheryl reported on the Leadership Workshop they attended in Macon. Members chose to amend the bi-laws so that meeting dates could be more flexible and selected each bienium. For the next two years, meetings will still be on the first Saturday of December and February. Changes were made for the fall and spring meetings to be held on the last Saturday in September and the last Saturday in April.

Meeting dates are:

- December 6, 2014
- February 7, 2015
- April 25, 2015
- September 26, 2015
- December 5, 2015
- February 6, 2016
- April 30, 2016



Anita Thomaston

## New Members Initiated



Welcome to our three newest Alpha Iota members!

Pictured from left to right:  
Laura Michelle Woods, President  
Claudia Bowers  
Martha Tolcher  
Lynne Vidiksis



# Getting to Know Our New Members

## Martha Tolcher



Originally from California, I was fortunate to spend several years traveling in Europe, while my father was stationed in Naples, Italy, with the US Navy. My college degree in Spanish was earned in Munich, Germany, and Fredericksburg, VA. For fourteen years, I was a middle school Foreign Language teacher in Clayton County, followed by eight years of teaching ESOL. My good friends Debbie B. And Cheryl G. were made as a result of my years spent at Kendrick Middle! Presently, I am in my third year of teaching Spanish at Our Lady of Victory School in Tyrone.



My husband and I are blessed with six adult children, as well as their spouses (3) and nine grandchildren. My favorite pastimes are spending time with family and friends, reading, crocheting/ knitting and gardening. I also love traveling, having enjoyed such exotic places as Mexico, Peru, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago. I'm looking forward to being part of service activities through DKG.

## Claudia Bowers

"I was born and raised in Toccoa, GA. I went to UGA, and got a BSHE degree with a major in Early Childhood/Special Education. I received my Master's degree from West Georgia. I taught school in Clayton County for 35 years - Special Ed., 1st. and 2nd. grades. I have one brother. He and his family live in North Carolina.

After retiring, I did substitute teaching for several years, and even went back to full-time teaching again for four years. I make



"pillowcase" dresses for girls around the world through my church, am a first grade Sunday School teacher, am one of the leaders for "Girls in Action" (second graders), and a volunteer at the Clayton County Humane Society."

## Lynne Vidiksis

"I started teaching in 1978. Probably, I have done every teaching venue there is in Special Education. I have 3 grown sons. My oldest is a meteorologist with the Air Force, and my middle son has won many awards as Manager of the Year in restaurant management for Buffalo Wild Wings. He is the only manager to have won this award 3 years in a row in the history of this chain. My youngest son is an up and coming podiatrist having spent years working with the VA in Illinois. I have coached Special Olympics many years, and was Teacher of the Year for 2006 for MD Roberts Middle. My degree is from various colleges in Illinois. I still do substitute teaching in Clayton County, GA."



## A Delicious Project

Deborah is often heard saying that she doesn't like to make eye contact with Cheryl because it results in situations where she is "voluntold". But as Paul Harvey said on his radio show, "Here's the rest of the story..."

After being elected as a Co-Vice President, Deborah said, "I don't want to just hold an office. I want to do something important."

And so the idea for our next fundraiser, an "Inspiration for Life Cookbook" was born.

Deborah and Cheryl met with other members and discussed all the aspects of creating a cook-

book. Great food and great ideas were abundant at Truett's Luau in Fayetteville. It was decided the next step was to meet with a printer to determine the feasibility of the ideas. After meeting with Mr. Keillor at Fayette Printing, it was discovered that many of the options discussed at the meeting were not financially profitable. He did suggest that online publishing was a more affordable choice. This avenue was presented at the October meeting and received with much enthusiasm. Inspirational passages, bible verses, humorous

short stories and recipes will be included in our book. Involving members of the community and possibly the Historical Society was discussed. Deborah and Cheryl are working on the next step in gaining submissions from the community. Members will be contacted for assistance. Please send your submissions to [cheryl.gff@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.gff@gmail.com).

Two possible venues for sales will be the PSI State Convention in Macon and the Regional Convention in Savannah. Please contact Laura Michelle if you are interested in attending either event.

### State Convention

April 17-19, 2015

Macon, GA

Marriott City Center

Book your room by March 12  
for a special rate.

PSI State

### Regional Convention

July 15-18, 2015

Savannah, GA

Westin Resort

A vacation with our  
DKG sisters!

## Website Certified

The Alpha Iota website was certified by DKG for the 2014-2016 bienium. The new seal is quite beautiful and is posted on the homepage of our site at <http://alphaiotaga.weebly.com>.



## Rainbow House

Alpha Iota members donated school supplies, batteries, paper products and bread for Rainbow House in Jonesboro. Rainbow House is a shelter for abused and neglected children. They can accommodate 22 children and serve the metro area and surrounding counties. The organization relies heavily on grants, donations and volunteers. Their list of needs can be located at [rainbowhouseinc.org](http://rainbowhouseinc.org). On October 25th, they will host a 5K run. To volunteer call the Rainbow House at 770-478-6905.

