



## Alpha Iota Delta Kappa Gamma Meeting

December 1, 2018

During the Brunch period members visited, displayed items for the Silent Auction and signed cards for our sister chapters and those not present.

### Call to Order/Roll Call/Inspiration



President Cheryl Goff called the meeting to order and led in singing the *DKG Song*.

Members then shared favorite Christmas songs for roll call. In keeping with the “song” theme, Recording Secretary Anita Thomaston shared the inspirational story of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*. Copywriter Robert L. May created the story for distribution as a comic book by Montgomery Ward Stores in 1939. He settled on the idea of an underdog who overcame adversity to succeed. As educators, we have the responsibility to encourage the “misfits” whenever and wherever we can, and to help students excel and celebrate their uniqueness. Anita played the piano as members sang the famous song together.



### Area III Director



Cheryl Goff introduced and welcomed our **Area Director, Dianne Sharpe**, who shared information about her role. She is to encourage chapter participation and beyond—to the state and international levels. She also talked about the scholarship opportunities. In news from Psi State, there will be changes in the state organization for the upcoming biennium. State level organizations will be called by their state names, but local groups will keep their Greek designations. The next International Conference will be held in Boston. Dianne encourages us to engage in all opportunities provided through Delta Kappa Gamma. She complimented Alpha Iota on our great sisterhood and thanked us for inviting her.

### Officer Reports

Cheryl talked about one of our **Literacy Projects**, the **CCPS Reading Bowl**. Members Cindy Thompson, Maureen Keillor, Cheryl Goff and Anita Thomaston volunteered at the Picture Book Bowl on November 3<sup>rd</sup> (along with Tony Goff) and members will be needed for the Chapter Book Bowl January 26<sup>th</sup> and the Celebration of Champions on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up on the Alpha Iota Planning Document. You may also volunteer at the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl at Clayton State University on February 9<sup>th</sup>. To serve as a volunteer, please contact Dr. Dennis Attick at 678-466-4826 or [dennisattick@clayton.edu](mailto:dennisattick@clayton.edu)

Cheryl received a call from Becky Olvera about becoming the **Recording Secretary** for the Georgia State Organization, and she agreed! Dianne suggested getting in touch with Lynn Skinner for guidance on that role. As a chapter, we will need to “step up” and support Cheryl in this role at statewide events. Way to go, Cheryl!

**Minutes and Treasurer's Reports** were shared and discussed. Kathy Acree made a motion to accept these as read, and Cindy Thompson seconded. These reports were approved.

Corresponding Secretary Martha Tolcher prepared **cards** for members unable to attend today, as well as birthday and get-well cards. Our chapter received a Christmas card from District 4. We are sending cards to the other Georgia chapters in Area 3 along with personnel at International and the Psi State president Virginia McChesney. Martha will mail the cards to everyone.

Cindy Thompson talked about our **Service Projects** this month. We had wanted to help with the Angel Trees/Salvation Army, but she called and no one contacted her. She offered these alternatives:



- **Clark's Christmas Kids**—we can donate on-line to help children who are in foster care in Georgia.
- **Books** for kids affected by Hurricane Michael in Mexico Beach, Florida—Cindy is willing to purchase books to send with her neighbor, Leah Keith, who is collecting books for children.

Parliamentarian Bonnie Strohman moved that we do both of these projects. Kathy Acree recommended donating \$100 to Clark's Christmas Kids and up to \$200 on books for children in Florida. Martha Tolcher seconded the motion and it was approved. Our other projects this month include the **Silent Auction** (benefits scholarship for students in teacher preparation programs in college) and **socks** for the Angel Tree at Kendrick Middle School.

Another possible **future service project** was discussed: from *Modern Maturity* magazine, brown bags for police officers to include crackers, candy, notepad, pen, etc. These could be made for the Resource Officers in schools as a thank you for their service. Funds from the Happy Jar (\$54 collected this month) are sent each May to help schoolchildren in **Liberia**, a project started by Linda Holcomb.



### **Business Items**

**Social event:** on December 7<sup>th</sup>, there will be an Alpha Iota outing to the Christmas program at First Baptist Church of Jonesboro. Meet at the Golden Corral at 5 pm. Let Cheryl know if you're planning to attend. This is usually organized by member Deborah Bhanjirow, who is in India for her daughter's wedding.

A donation of \$25.00 was made to Habitat for Humanity in memory of Martha Tolcher's mother. The **by-laws** still need to be updated, particularly in light of the changes at the International level. Volunteers are needed for the Tim Teebo Foundation *A Night to Shine*. This is a special needs prom. Let Cheryl know if you want to volunteer on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> at Living Faith Tabernacle in Forest Park. There is also one in Newnan.

A discussion was held concerning **dates for our meetings**. Perhaps we need to change our meetings from the first Saturdays in October and December to



September (last Saturday in August if September meeting falls on Labor Day weekend) and November. Cheryl will send out a survey so members can vote on these changes and discuss it at the February meeting. **Dues** must be collected before our May meeting. Laura Michelle Woods asked if we could use Cash App (like PayPal) which has a 43 cent fee per transaction, since many people no longer have checking accounts. We could also use EventBrite. Laura will work with Cheryl and Treasurer Debra Anderson concerning this. Those who bank at Wells Fargo can transfer funds with Zelle.

### **Supporting Early Educators**

This year we offered a grant to students at Clayton State University to assist with the cost of GACE testing. Beverly Garner worked with Cheryl on this, and one student, Erika Andrews, applied. We awarded her \$100 and Vice President Carol Bentley matched this. Our Silent Auction provides for this grant. See her photo in the January newsletter.

### **Mock Reading Bowl**

Cindy Thompson led a Mock Reading Bowl after reading a Georgia Children's Book Award nominee, *After the Fall* by Dan Santat. We divided into teams and had a fun competition using the buzzers and answering questions. Members are asked to please consider volunteering at these events. At the Reading Bowl, students from elementary, middle and high school compete in six rounds. This year Clayton County has almost 400 participants from 37 schools. Come and see the "Olympic" Parade of Schools and cheer the students on! There are various opportunities for volunteering. At the end the winners are announced and each child gets a free book. We are sponsoring the *Celebration of Champions* on February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Clayton County Performing Arts Center. Volunteers need to be there at 5:00 to help with selling food and tickets. People also need to purchase refreshments ahead of time, etc.—see the Alpha Iota January newsletter. There will be a talk by author Deron R. Hicks, author of *The Van Gogh Incident* and a jazz ensemble at the After Party. Last year, only Cheryl and Cindy helped and more people are needed, especially since Cindy is scheduled for shoulder surgery January 9<sup>th</sup>. Laura Michelle shared that in APS each group has a team shirt and teams eat lunch while scores are tallied. The school sells concessions and the teams order pizza.



Following the Mock Reading Bowl, members shopped at the Silent Auction (raised \$188). This money will be used for our Scholarship Fund. Lunch was catered by Dawn Carter. Door prizes were won by Bonnie, Debra, Cheryl, Kathy, Cindy and Nancy.

Don't forget:

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Alpha Iota meeting at Morrow Methodist Church with a potluck lunch. We'll also have the Premier Jewelry Designs fundraiser and our service is donating to Calvary Refuge Center. **RSVP on the chapter [website](#), the Google [Doc](#) or by e-mail.** We need to know how many people

are attending and what food items you plan to bring. Also, send any **photos** from the holidays that you would like to share, to be displayed in a Powerpoint at the meeting.

**March 20<sup>th</sup>** : Ferst Foundation Spring Luncheon

**May 4<sup>th</sup>**: Alpha Iota meeting with speaker Sonia Davis, coordinator of the Homeless Department in Clayton County. **Dues** for next year must be paid by this time.

**May 21<sup>st</sup>**: Pen Pal Reveal parties

**Fall meetings**: September 7 and November 2, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Anita L. Thomaston

Alpha Iota

Treasurer's Report

February 2, 2019

<b>Balance Forwarded</b>	\$6,689.01
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**Expenditures**

December, 2018	ck# 4191	Ericka Andrews	200.00
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GACE Grant

December 1, 2018	ck# 4194	Martha Tolcher	30.00
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Stamps

December 1, 2018	ck# 4195	Habitat for Humanity	25.00
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Memory of Mary Alice Widener

December 1, 2018	ck# 4196	Dawn Carter	247.00
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December catering

<b><u>Sub-Total</u></b>	\$6,187.01
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**Deposits**

December 5, 2018

\$342.80

Dues 100.00

Happy Jar 41.80

Silent Auction 188.00

December lunch 13.00

**Balance**

\$ 6,529.81

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