

Alpha Kappa Chapter
Georgia State Organization (GSO)
DKG society International

Alpha Kappa chapter Minutes January 28, 2019

Prior to the call to order Joyce Reynolds shared information about her volunteer organization FurKids. FurKids is a non-kill, non-cage shelter for kittens and cats. They have 200 pets in PetCos around ATL and 1000 kittens at the facility near Pleasantdale Rd. FurKids is funded partially by 3 thrift stores in ATL. They need volunteers and foster parents for cats and kittens and allow children (accompanied by their parents) to volunteer. Joyce has fostered many cats and kittens.

Mary Anne called the meeting to order at 6:43 and passed around the volunteer sheet. Alpha Kappa members had 126 hours in October 2018 and 103 volunteer hours in Sept. 2018. The treasurer's report stating the total assets of the chapter at \$15,178.14 was approved by the chapter and the minutes from October 2018 were also approved. Mary Anne reported on the Leadership Institute she and Betsy attended Jan. 26 and encouraged other members to attend as the meetings and seminars have lots of valuable pertinent information. Emails were sent with info on the upcoming state convention April 26-28 in Jekyll Island and DKG Day at the Capitol Feb. 18. After the tour of the Capitol the guests will meet with state legislatures. The Psi State Leadership Seminars are May 31 in Macon and Mary Anne has additional information.

Ginny Robinson, Education Chair, reported on the status of teacher salaries in respect to other graduates with similar degrees. Teachers in the US earn 24% less than those with comparable degrees. The average teacher salary (adjusted for inflation) is less than 30 years ago. In 2015 29 states were spending less per pupil money than they did before the Great Recession.

Betsy Barb presented Becky King with her 40 year DKG pin and Faye Windham with her 50 year pin. Congratulations to these two wonderful ladies. Betsy also asked us to collect any and all plastic tops for her granddaughter's school to buy a bench. They need 100 lbs.

At our next meeting on Feb. 25, 2019 we will induct new members. Our state president, Virginia McChesney, will attend and be part of the ceremony.

Cecilia Ropp read thank you notes from Eagle Woods Academy for our monetary donation, snacks and school supplies.

Janet Goldin is in A.G. Rhodes for a rehab and PT on her broken femur. Mary Anne took flowers. Margaret Wheeler has the flu. Please call a member who did not attend the meeting tonight.

Any member can pay \$5 to honor one of Alpha Kappa's member's as a person of commitment to education and community. The honoree will be mentioned at the State convention. The form is on the state website.

Chapter website: alphakappasidkg.weebly.com

State website: dkgga.weebly.com

International website: dkg.org

Mary Anne briefly went over some changes from the 2018 International Convention. Those of note are: DKG society name was not changed. We are now referred to as Georgia State Organization (GSO), not Psi State. We use the word "induct" instead of "initiate" for new members. Membership remains by invitation. Membership is now open to anyone who has ever taught, including undergraduate and graduate education degree students. Dues payments beginning 2019 will be in April and May for the following year. Chapters may meet/vote electronically.

Our speaker, Bunny Davis from the Women's Resources Center was presented a check for \$300 from Alpha Kappa and numerous gift cards. Bunny presented statistics on domestic violence, and the WRC mission, part of which is to create a society in which domestic violence does not exist and to change the system that creates violence. She spoke of the control created through physical, emotional, sexual, and financial abuse. Domestic violence can also lead to crime, homelessness, miscarriages, drug abuse, suicide and other social and personal tragedies. Bunny left us with a wish list for the WRC (which included gift cards from big box stores, groceries and gas stations) and the thought: "Violence is never justified."

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Robinson- recording secretary