

E-Violets
Denver Area Alumnae Chapter
Sigma Sigma Sigma
October 2008

OCTOBER MEETING IN REVIEW

Sarah George welcomed 15 alumnae to the Culinary Arts Department of Warren Tech High School on October 13. The 6:00 dinner/meeting began with Sarah supervising the preparation of the delicious meal and Jean Stuck acting as hostess.

While the beef and asparagus simmered and mushroom-shaped potatoes baked, President, Carolyn Wallisch conducted the meeting. She began with the announcement that Sigma Sigma Sigma National Officers, possibly as many as 15 in the contingency, will be attending our Christmas dinner December 5. The changes in time, date and place for our meeting have been made to accommodate the women who will be in Denver for the annual Association of Fraternity Advisors meeting. Carolyn passed a sign-up sheet for volunteers to pick-up the women at the Hyatt Convention Center and shuttle them to our dinner/meeting and back to the hotel. Sheryl Dahm, Bobbi Smith, Lynn Harrington, Joanne Detary and Deb Wilcox will be at the hotel at 5:15 to get the out-of-town visitors. Jill Nickels will return the women Deb picks up. Carolyn asked for help making favors; Marge Behm, Jackie Goreham, Jill Nickels, Bobbi Smith, Cindy Persichette and Sharon Rockwell volunteered. If anyone else wants to help on either of these committees, please let Carolyn know.

Pat King reported on the Christmas Swag Sale asking everyone to please help by purchasing one or two swags so that the goal of 100 sold may be reached. Rebekah Ager, chairman of the fundraiser, is collecting orders due October 25.

Denver Area Panhellenic Delegates, Louise Jordan and Clarissa Crozier, reported on upcoming events. The annual scholarship fundraiser will have a "phantom" twist again, with donations to The Red - White - and Blue Presidential Scholarship Fundraiser. There are no cakes to bake or buy, just monetary gifts to help sorority women continue their education. Louise or Clarissa will be happy to take your check made out to Denver Area Panhellenic Scholarship Fund.

The annual Awards Luncheon and scholarship presentations are April 25, 2009, at the Glenmore Country Club.

School supplies are once again being collected for January distribution. DAP asks that you do not include large boxes of crayons or

pencils. Individual size items are best and may be given to Louise or Clarissa at any meeting.

The New Garments Always clothing drive ends in March with collection going on now. Louise would buy items if you prefer to give money. Bobbi Smith enjoys shopping and has offered to buy clothing for those who are happy to let her do it.

Catherine Hobbs sent a note thanking the Denver Alumnae Chapter for giving her honorary membership. She lives in Phoenix, AZ but was a member of our chapter for many years. It has been a Denver tradition to give membership to women who have reached the age of 90. Catherine, you are a role model for all of us and we look forward to seeing you at a meeting in Denver in the near future.

Bobbi Smith, Alumnae Advisor for Eta Pi, was happy to report that the collegiate chapter has 20 new members to be initiated in November. The goal of 50 members is close to being achieved.

TOUR AND LUNCH A FUN TIME

Saturday morning, October 25, nine of us met at the Denver Performing Arts Complex for a tour of the Ellie Caulkins, Buell, Space and Stage theatres. Most of us entered the opera house for the first time. We learned that the old Denver Auditorium, built in 1908 and site of the Democratic National Convention that year, is on the National Historic Registry. When it was decided that the Ellie Caulkins Opera House was to be built within the auditorium walls, the roof had to be removed for renovation. Nothing on the outside could be changed and doorways were not large enough for the huge equipment necessary for the project. Cranes were used for removal of the old furnishings and placement of the new, beautiful chandeliers and artwork in the entryway included.

Following a walk-through of the Buell and sitting in the new and more room-for-legs seats, we were told about the quick stage entrance and exit of actors through trapdoors (actually platforms easily lowered and elevated at precise times).

The old Tramway building, across the street from the performing arts center, is now owned by the Denver Center for Performing Arts and is where costumes are “built.” Seamstresses make patterns measured specifically for individual actors and sew all the intricate details that costumes require. We saw many dresses of beautiful fabrics in various stages of production hanging on lengthy rods. Most costumes are used for only one production.

Every minute of the educational tour was fascinating and we wished it could have lasted longer.

Lunch at Baur's was a time to reminisce as many of us remember having lunch there with our mothers years ago. Several menu items reflected times gone-by, as did the tile floor leading to the restrooms. We agreed the food was outstanding, would go there again and was a delicious way to end our outing.

DUES DUE BY NOVEMBER 23

Annual dues need to be collected by November 23, 2008, so that our treasurer, Sheryl Dahm, can send them to National Headquarters by the deadline, December 1. If you have paid lifetime dues and owe only local dues, the amount is \$42.50. If you have not paid lifetime dues, the annual amount is \$35.00 and local dues is \$42.50 for a total of \$77.50. Please make your check payable to Sigma Sigma Sigma and give it to Sheryl at the November 8 meeting or send it to her.

Financial strength is a goal of Tri Sigma and always a challenge because of the structure of our organization. Alumnae make up the largest segment of our sorority but many do not pay dues. Denver Area Alumnae Chapter can maintain its national reputation of consistently high membership of due paying sisters - with your help. Your participation matters in this important aspect of sorority life. Thank you for your prompt response to the Dues Due December 1, 2008, deadline.

FINALS WEEK GOODY BAGS FOR METRO CHAPTER

Katie Halfman, Marilyn Kaes and Bobbi Smith are working on "goody bags" to give to Eta Pi (Metro State) chapter members for finals week December 8 – 12. If you have ideas, contributions or would like to help with this fun project, please contact Bobbi at bobbismith39@aol.com. Approximately 40 bags will be needed.

Leftover Halloween candy could be put to good use in this endeavor.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The next meeting, November 8, 2008, is a Saturday morning brunch at Sheryl Dahm's home. Please come at 9:30 a.m.

Katie Halfman will present a program on self-defense, and be sure to wear purple and/or letters to be eligible for a surprise drawing.

DECEMBER MEETING

Many changes have been made to the time and location of the meeting in December. National Officers of Sigma Sigma Sigma, coming from different parts of the country to attend the Association of Fraternity Advisors

annual meeting, will visit Denver Area Alumnae Chapter on December 5, 2008. A large contingency, possibly as many as fifteen National Officers, and the excellent turnout of local women in December, has led to the decision to hold the dinner/meeting at the Warren Tech Restaurant. Sarah George has made arrangements for us to use the facility, including the kitchen, at no charge.

Please mark your calendars and make the necessary changes. The December meeting will be held on Friday, the 5th at 6:00 p.m. at the Warren Tech Culinary Arts Restaurant – same place we met in October. Plans for a potluck still stand. Look for details in the November E-Violets.

A GENTLE REMINDER ABOUT R.S.V.P. FOR MEETINGS

It's easy to forget, and perhaps some haven't even known, about the Standing Rules Article VII statement regarding reimbursement of hostesses when plans change. It says: A charge shall be made for the dinner/dessert at each regular meeting. If cancellation is not made two days preceding the meeting, the member is expected to pay for her dinner /dessert. The treasurer shall notify persons, having unpaid reservations, of this procedure.

Several members who made reservations for the dinner at Warren Tech were unable to attend. Our world is a busy place and having to change plans at the last minute is understandable but Sarah George purchased food for the number of people who said they would be there to eat it. Fortunately she was able to use the extra items later with her students. The situation might not have turned out in this manner and undue expenses would have been placed on the hostess.

Let's remember Article VII and take responsibility for our commitments.

SIGMA IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Do you know which sister is from Stanton, MI and was Ceremonials Chairman of Alpha Phi Chapter at Central Michigan University? She has one brother, one sister and one daughter and her favorite foods are Swiss steak and dark chocolate. She enjoys reading, singing, handcrafts, theatre and watching her daughter dance. She collects teacups, teapots and anything with violets. She would love to meet Princess Diana. Did you guess? Carol Andersen is this month's Sigma in the Spotlight.