

Beta Lambda Phi

Happy Halloween! We hope everyone enjoyed the spooky holiday and had some fun. Kimberly dressed her baby, Cleo, as a strawberry (thanks to sister Lesley for loaning it!) and they had fun at a party with over 30 babies all decked out. Amy O. celebrated by painting pumpkins with her son, Luke, and taking him to a pumpkin patch.

Our monthly meeting was hosted by Amy O. and our monthly social was a visit to the Dragon Boat Races in Sugar Land on October 22. After walking around and finding a nice spot by the water we cheered for all the passing boats as their team captains motivated them by beating a drum. After the race was over we couldn't resist freshly squeezed lemonade and fried oreos. MMMM, good! Afterwards we met at Japaneiros where we had a late lunch/early dinner. We continued to enjoy the great weather by sitting outdoors and having an array of different food choices like sushi,

ceviche, plantains, calamari, and of course wine!

Diane went to the Boosom Ball on October 23 with her boyfriend, Neal, and his parents to see the singer Colbie Callait. They had a great time and proceeds supported the Susan G. Komen foundation.

Amy W. has been in New Orleans all month for work. Her parents came to visit while she was there and they did a lot of gambling, eating, and shopping - it was great! The food is good - but she's ready to get back to Tex-Mex!

Amy O. had the house to herself for a weekend while her husband and son went out of town. She partied it up with dinner out and then dancing at the Black Swan with Kimberly (we missed Diane who had no excuse and Erica who was busy study-

Submitted by Kimberly Smith

ing!).

Congrats to Melinda and the committee for throwing a fabulous Open Meeting! We all had a wonderful time - good food and fun dancing. Our own Kelly did a fantastic job with the decorations and props to her husband, Stuart, for helping out so much.

BLP is busy getting ready for Holiday Tea on Saturday, Dec. 3. We hope to see everyone there, as we are working hard to make this a wonderful event, in keeping with BSP tradition!



Laureate Beta Kappa

Submitted by Judy Stover

What beautiful weather we are having!!! We hope everyone is getting a chance to be outdoors to enjoy it.

Our October 10th meeting was held at Lois LaRose's new home in Sweetgrass where she and her co-hostess, Jo Engelhart provided the chapter with a wonderful salad supper. We were delighted to welcome our three guests: Mary Ann DePaula, Jan Rowland-Green, and Cindy Hess.

Judy and Jim Stover and Lois and Guy LaRose enjoyed SWHCC open meeting – Fiesta Style. It was great to see all of our council sisters once again. Our kudos to Melinda and her committee for a job well done.

Our original social to the Renaissance Festival kind of went by the wayside but being the creative and easy going chapter we are, our newest member, Deb Bray and her husband, Ken, invited the chapter and guest to their home for some of Ken's popular bar-b-que ribs. And he didn't disappoint!!! We had a great evening around the pool enjoying great fellowship and

wonderful food. Our sisters still know how to cook!!! Thanks to Deb and Ken for their great hospitality!!

Jan and Allen along with their children, Darin and Alaina, experienced 7 national parks/monuments for two weeks in October. They came back with some great experiences, one being that they were the only Americans on the tour; most from Australia and Canada. The weather was great—a little cool, but great for traveling.

Our cultural program for November will be held on the 13th where the chapter and guests will be attending their first polo match. It just so happens that this is the last "match" of the season and all the polo riders will be women. It just so happened we picked an all women match and the VP of special events at the polo club was impressed that we repre-

sent a woman's organization. More details to follow...

Glad to hear that Grace Wallace is doing great and is "back at work" for her chapter. Take it easy, Grace; one step at a time!!



Preceptor Laureate Beta Lambda

Submitted by Grace Wallace

Laureate Beta Lambda sisters are very happy for the cooler weather. It has been a long haul. Hope everyone feels the same.

Kudos to the organizers of the Open Meeting "Fiesta Party" at the Old South Plantation. Our chapter was fortunate to sell out of our famous homemade breads and other confections. It was fun visiting with council members and their significant others. The Plantation provided a very festive atmosphere for the event which included a delicious Mexican buffet followed by dancing. Ellie O'Dell entertained us with another of her humorous comedy routines. A good time was had by all!

Busy times for Bob and Carole Sandoval with granddaughter, McKenna, turning Sweet 16 the same weekend grandson, Barrett, did his first March-in at Kyle Field as a Sea Aggie! All while watching the Aggies outscore Baylor.

Sue McPherson went to visit around the Dallas group. Expecting another Great-grandson in approximately 3 to four weeks. Her grandchildren, Whit and Zach are patiently waiting, as we all are. Sue also went with a friend to see The Promise in Glen Rose, "It is a musical experience of the Life of Christ. If you ever get the chance to see it be sure and do so. It only runs September-October.

Grace Wallace has been visiting many doctors and doing physical therapy three times a week. Things are looking up.

Plans are under way for our presentation and refreshments at council in November.



Preceptor Nu

Well, things have been a little bit slower with Texas weather going up and down... but cold is supposed to be coming, and there was a "drop or two of rain" today. The hustle and bustle of Thanksgiving and Christmas are arriving...and you should see my "cuties" in their Halloween dress... awwwwwww

In Preceptor Nu, we are still trying to hit our "magic number of 10" sisters. We can still go up, but we initially set that goal. We have been very fortunate to have new sisters who do well with us, but easily move between our other chapters as evidenced at the recent Open Meeting.

Janis T. is one talented woman with a very funny husband. She is talented, creative and volunteers for any and every job we have in PN.

Michelle L. is young, enthusiastic with again a very nice and easy to be around husband who blends well with our other Beta Buddies. She's also an entrepreneur and we all support her endeavors.

Tricia S. is brand new, although a past member of BSP...to think she's been out for 10 years and was so excited to find us. I related easily to her as she is a former Physical Therapist and loves working with "Special Needs" Children. She can't wait for her husband, William to join us for our "outstanding socials."

Our fourth new sister, Toni Laas, is also a

former BSP member, but in PUERTO RICO!!!!. She is such an interesting lady with an equally warm and interesting husband. They are busily working on her daughter's wedding in Puerto Rico. Lar loves the fact that, they too, have a ranch close to us in Hallettsville.

So, this "reformation" of PN just keeps getting better every day!!!! The rest of us are busy too, Shirley is "re-doing" her house. Sandra is the consummate business woman, travelling often and celebrating Gary's new retirement! Larry and I have been travelling too, spent last week-end in San Antonio and Wimberley...boy can a lady shop in these towns! Duang and Bob are in Seattle where she's charming the rest of the world!!!!

On an even happier note, our next social will be "Get Down with the Meeks!!" at our ranch in Columbus. Each couple will be bringing their own steaks, and our "Special Buddy and Friendly Venture" leader, Jill Coble, is bringing two other couples who think BSP can "spice up their lives" too. Larry has added a planned hayride, will show off the three new baby calves, and a fireworks display at the end...(hope they drop the BURN BAN!!)

Our most recent meeting was held at Duang's house. As usual, the dining fare was "exquisite!" We all left her house so full we could roll!!!! The hostess of skills of Duang are a bar hard to get over. She makes every guest smile, enjoy and be comfortable. Visiting with us were three

Submitted by Carolyn Meeks

members from BLB...you know how SWHCC is..."we try to spread the wealth"!! They were funny and appreciative...a nice addition!!!

We have so many upcoming events, it's hard to fit them on my calendar...but knowing I'll be with good friends makes me not so tired, but sooooo very excited!!!

So, I think you can see things are good with us...hope the same for all...So to all of you:

Y'ALL TAKE CARE....AND COME BACK NEXT MONTH!!!!



Friendly Venture Report

Submitted by Duang Putnam

“SHARE THE GIFT OF BETA SIGMA PHI WITH OTHERS”!

Hooray! Through the effort of F/V and membership, by reaching out to the member-at-large status, we are adding one more member to PN chapter in October. This means one more council member too, and a total of 6 new council members in the past two months.

A rush event is planned for November 17th, at my home since several of the prospective members live in Pecan Grove. We are focusing on ladies who are in the age range of 30-40 years old. If you know of anyone who might have interest of learning more about BSP please let me know.

The next rush event is in the works; it will be at the Sugar Land Marriott, Town Square and will welcome ladies of all ages. Details will be forth coming, in the mean time please think of someone you can bring and make it a fun gathering.

We also want to remind everyone that there are three young ladies we have been working with and are trying to form a new chapter. They are in their early to mid 20s. Thanks to Jill and Shirley who have been working tirelessly to make it happen. Let's work hard to find two more people for them. Won't it be wonderful!

Xi Eta Epsilon

Greetings and Happy Halloween to all our BSP sisters from Xi Eta Epsilon.

Our October meeting was held at Barbara Hupe's. Her program was on the concessions at the movies. We played several games matching old movie pictures to the name of the movies, who knew the most about movie candy, and other games. A history of how the concessions were started and why was presented. We really learned a lot as we munched on popcorn and candy.

The “Old South Plantation” was rocking Saturday night, October 8 with lots of fiesta flare. Several of our ladies turned up in Mexican and Fiesta dress to celebrate “Open Meeting”. After much encouragement from other chapter sisters, our ladies got up and belted out a winning karaoke. Way to go girls! Also a big thank you to

the “Open Meeting” committee for such a wonderful, fun time.

XEE has a tradition that when it is your birthday you plan a celebration. Well this month Shirley and Debbie out did themselves with a weekend at the beach. We all went down to Sea Isle in Galveston on Friday night. We were greeted with lots of snacks and drinks and finished the evening off with ordering pizza. What a fun time to catch up with each other. Saturday morning started out with a wonderful breakfast prepared by XEE's chef Nannette. Then it was off to discover the island. All of us toured the lke tree sculptures scattered throughout town and then it was off to whatever floated your boat. We had shoppers, spa ladies, shoppers, and some who just wanted to set on the beach and take in the beautiful weather and shoppers. Dinner was on the upstairs

Submitted by Shirley Grass

patio at the Sand Bar in Sea Isle. What a wonderful evening enjoying dinner, listening to the waves lap against the boats, watching the sunset and spraying for the mosquitoes. Sunday morning started out with eggs benedict and mimosas and then boo hoo back to reality. We all enjoyed our weekend of rest and relaxation.



Thank You!

Well our first council event has now passed and thanks to all of my committee members the Fiesta was a lot of fun with sisters sharing that much anticipated time with each other. But the success of it didn't just come from the committee. It was only a success because of those who attended the event. Thank you to each of you!!! We ate, drank, danced, sang and laughed. What more can you ask for than a wonderful group of SISTERS!

And to all of the Beta Buddies who attended, I have to give a BIG thank you to them! With much coaxing and prodding (and a few had to be pushed!) we got them all up from their seats and out on the floor to sing there own special karaoke song. Way to go guys!

The cake auction was once again a success. There were a lot of great looking cakes and some generous bidders. All of those proceeds will go towards Council.

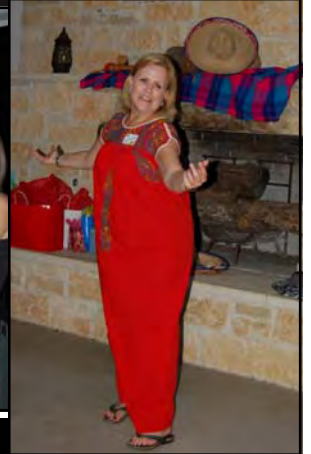
And by the end of the evening, we also helped out "unofficially" with a service project to our local community. Not sure whether La Casona restaurant just does a great job on catering or if everyone filled up on appetizers and their favorite beverages before dinner but we had enough food left over to be able to feed some local fire fighters. Carolyn and Larry graciously offered to shuttle the food to them. Thank you!

I'm looking forward to sharing the holiday spirit at our next council event...the holiday tea. Erica...the floor is yours...take it away!

Beta Hugs, Melinda



"Ole—Ole—Ole—Ole"



Holiday Tea

A French Holiday Tea Tradition

Saturday, December 3, 2011 at 11:30am

*Bistro le Cep
1112 Westheimer
Houston, TX 77042
\$25.00 (includes meal, tax & gratuity)*

*RSVP to Kimberly Smith
kmssmith@hotmail.com / 281-636-4732
by November 25th*

Make Checks Payable: SWAEC

*Mail checks to:
Kimberly Smith
21602 Canyon Forest Ct.
Katy, TX 77450*

Menu

Beef & Vegetable Soup "Provençal" or Crisp Winter Salad

*Fillets of Fresh Rainbow Trout
Sauté Ménière*

*Breast of Chicken Cordon Bleu
or Traditional Wiener Schnitzel*

Dessert & Coffee or Tea

Full Cash bar Available

Merry Christmas

Erica and her team are busily at work planning a special holiday event for everyone. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend! It will be another special time to spend with your SISTERS and a wonderful way to kick off the holidays!

Joyeux Noël...Merry Christmas

TRIVIA

Nobody seems to know or agree on the origin of the word "Bistro". The most often quoted explanation is that it is a part of the Russian language, and during the fall of Napoleon in 1815, Russian soldiers stormed the cafes and small restaurants shouting "bistro, bistro" (hurry hurry). Whatever its origin, everyone agrees that it is a small unpretentious restaurant; simply a place to enjoy a glass of quality wine, a fine lunch or dinner, or just a slice of homemade pate with crusty bread. A "Bistro" is a place for good times with friends.

"Le Cep" is the trunk of the grapevine, which grows deep into the soil and provides nourishment and moisture to the grapes.

What could be a better or more appropriate name for a French Country Cooking and Wine Bar than ... Bistro le Cep

Xi Phi Gamma

October has been filled with many treats (and a few tricks) for XPG. Our first meeting of the month was hosted by Jill. All members warmly welcomed guest Beth Tracy, a CrossFit friend of Kim's. Members approved our chapter budget, discussed the details of our Girl's weekend to come, and thanked Melinda for her great effort at organizing the Fiesta Event in September. Many of our members dined and danced the night away during the council Fantastic Fiesta!

The weekend of Oct 14-16 found six XPG Sisters and one of our past sisters (Peggy Taylor) enjoying some quality time together in the Hill Country. As members gathered at Jill's house, they were given our first assignment.....all would be competing in the "Amazing Race".....XPG Style. Throughout the weekend, sisters were to secure items or find answers to various questions and of course, there were prizes involved. Our race included such things as: find John Wayne's boots, secure a map of Boerne, find out the date John T. Flores Country Store was established, name the location that is the cowboy capital of the world, name the place where Blake Shelton and Miranda Lambert were married....OK, you get the picture. At the end of the weekend, Peggy Taylor was the lucky winner of the grand prize with Kim Butner coming in a close second.

After stopping at Bucce's in Luling for a quick bathroom break, the girls headed to Helotes for our lunch at the John T. Flores Country Store. Delicious homemade tamales, smoked sausage, fried pickles and pulled pork sandwiches were just a few items we enjoyed. Next came a little shopping in the Helotes Old Town Marketplace. Then off to Boerne to the Ye Kendall Inn, the place for sleeping on this great adven-

ture weekend. Of course, the afternoon was finished by checking out just a few of the shops in Boerne.

Dressed up in our cowgirl clothes and purple glittery cowboy hats, the evening festivities started with the girls enjoying a little Lone Star Beer and some snacks before heading down the street to the Tin Roof Steakhouse. During dinner, we were entertained with some "Texas Girl's Country Music". And of course, our purple glittery cowboy hats brought a lot of attention to our table with people stopping by to ask lots of questions. If we hadn't been so far from home, I think we might have been able to recruit some new BSP members.

After a delicious breakfast on Saturday morning, we were off for more shopping in Boerne and then headed over to Bandera for a late lunch at the OST Restaurant. More shopping and some girls even had the opportunity to attend the afternoon gun fight at the Bandera Courthouse. All this shopping can make a girl tired so our next stop was a wine bar in Bandera. The wine bar just happened to be having an Oktoberfest celebration so we enjoyed listening to a little Polka music. Heading back to Boerne we got the evening festivities started with a "Happy Hour" and learned a little more about each other by answering some "Girls Night Out" questions. Then it was off to the "Soda Pop" restaurant for hamburgers, shakes, and fries. We enjoyed sitting outside listening to the band and also checking out all the cars as the restaurant was having a car show.

A little last minute shopping filled Sunday, before heading back to Katy. We can safely say that the XPG Girls helped the Hill Country economy! And as that saying goes "what happens on an XPG Girls

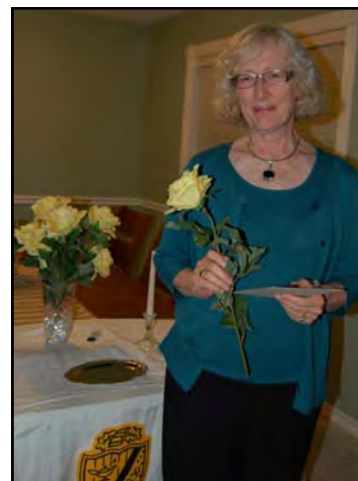
Submitted by Sandy Dickey

Weekend stays with the Girls." Arriving home, we might have been a little tired but we are already thinking and making plans for the next Xi Phi Gamma Girl's Weekend next year.

We met at Melissa's home on October 24. The Ritual of Pledge was completed for Paula, and the Ritual of Exemplar for Chris. Congrats ladies! We are participating in an upcoming craft fair on November 19, to sell our gorgeous rock angels. Megan suggested we participate in the Katy Santa Cops program as our Christmas service project and the motion passed. Jill brought a guest, Lisa Rodgers, and we were very happy to have her attend. Secret sister gifts were exchanged and the theme for the gift purchase was "As Seen on TV!" We had a blast, and got some crazy fun gifts!

As far as world travelers, Melissa Dailey wins the prize for October with her visit to Belgium and other stops in Europe. She had a wonderful time and gathered priceless memories. Sandy's trip to Idaho was not as glamorous but memorable just the same! Dianne has been in China and is headed to Canada for Thanksgiving. Sharon is currently in New York. Jill, Susan and Melinda were in St. Louis - our sisters have been on the move!

It was a very busy month for XPG and it looks like more of the same for the remainder of 2011. Our sisters look forward to our next social on November 19, at Beads and Baubles in Katy, and the upcoming Holiday Tea on December 3rd. We look forward to seeing all our council sisters there!



What Happens in Boerne...Stays in Boerne

(But here's a few things we can share!)



Take a look at our matching sleep shirts...awwwww!!!
Thanks Jill.



Xi Alpha Zeta

Submitted by Nina Coltharp

XAZ's first meeting in October was our Secret Sister Exchange on "Join Hands and Hearts". We gathered at Debbie's home with Ellie as her co-host wearing our High School sweaters, rings and shirts. We also brought our yearbooks and other memorabilia to share among our sisters. We had a 70's theme for our dinner and then giggled all night over past boyfriends and our first kiss!!! The grand finale was opening up our Secret Sister surprises according to our High School graduation date. We all enjoyed the evening especially with re-living our past.

Our second meeting was held at Nina's home that was decorated for Halloween. Our first cold snap for the Fall and we had soup night with 3 different yummy soups. Jeanne M was the co-hostess with the mostess! Nina had the program on Halloween Traditions and Origins. After some fun facts everyone spoke about their favorite memories including getting spooked at Haunted Houses!

Service Project – We received an urgent request for help from the Second Mile Mission in Stafford – their cupboards are bare. We all brought lots of canned goods and non-perishable items to help fill their Food Pantry. Next month we are bringing clothing items.

Our October Social took us to Old South dressed in our Fiesta clothing for SWHCC's Open Meeting. XAZ would like to give a big THANK YOU to Melinda and her committee for their outstanding event! We all wore our Mexican dresses and came to eat and dance the night away...of course Carolyn's Margarita Punch was a huge hit along with the delicious fajita dinner. We also bought lots of goodies at the Market and out bid our sisters for 2 cakes at the auction. We walked the beautiful grounds and took lots of group photos...thank you Shirley for getting us this wonderful location. We also applaud Ellie, Jene, and Patricia for the cute skit on BSP...what talent we have among us!

On a sad note, we have had two more deaths in our sister's families. Jene lost her father, Ron Kirshy, to cancer and the funeral service is going to be on Saturday, November 5. Ellie's grandfather also died. We continue to keep both families in our prayers. On a happier note, congratulations to Nina on her son's engagement to Florencia from the Westlake Club! A summer wedding is being planned. We are also happy for Donna's grandson who is recovering from his surgery and will be coming home soon!!!

Don't forget to set your clocks back this weekend and change the batteries in your smoke detectors. The cooler weather is here and the holidays are around the corner...may everyone be blessed and thankful for our families and our sisterhood. We are thy sisters, XAZ



*Beta Sigma Phi
Southwest Houston City Council*

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Motto:
Life, Learning,
Friendship

BΣΦ



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OCTOBER HOLIDAYS YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

5th World Teacher Day

Teachers deserve a little recognition, and some thanks and appreciation. Aside from parents and direct family, who else has as much influence on the hearts and minds of a child... your child?

14th Be Bald and Free Day

Never have a "bad hair day" again!

15th Sweetest Day

Herbert Birch Kingston, a Cleveland, Ohio philanthropist and candy company employee started Sweetest Day. He wanted to bring happiness to orphans, shut-ins and underprivileged. His intent was to show these people that they were not forgotten. In 1922, he started this holiday by giving candy and small gifts. He often used movie stars to distribute the gifts.

27th Make a Difference Day

Initiated in 1990, this is a national day devoted to helping others by doing volunteer work in the community. Make a commitment to help others for just one day.

October was also "Adopt a Shelter Dog Month", "Breast Cancer Awareness Month", and "National Popcorn Popping Month" just to name a few.