
Beta Lambda Phi

Beta Lambda Phi celebrated beginning day Saturday, August 20, 2011 at Amy Whitley's lovely place in downtown Houston. Each member was assigned a color and food category, example: Orange Appetizer, Red Dessert, etc. All the ladies put a lot of thought into their meals and everything was delicious! We talked and shared the recipes and raved about Amy's delicious cupcakes with the surprise filling and Erica's refreshing red watermelon and strawberry yogurt delight!

After dinner and dessert we cleared the table and were given our yearbooks which looked amazing! The yearbook committee really worked hard to get their creative juices flowing and made fabulous and fun pages!

After going through the pages together we were surprised with wine glasses and paint. We sat together and painted our very own wine glasses! It was a lot of fun as we quickly realized who could and couldn't paint! After lots of wine, laughs, and hugs we headed our separate ways. It was a great night, thanks to the lovely sisters that made it so fun.

In other news, Erica has two new puppies. And she needs prayers for knowledge and strength from her sisters. She's working part-time and going back to school full time to earn her nursing degree and she celebrated her 37th birthday 8/31!!

Amy Okie's son started a mother's day out preschool program and is doing well, de-

Submitted by Kimberly Smith

spite the difficult first day for both mom and son!

Kimberly's daughter is 6 months old and has learned how to sit up on her own and is starting on solid foods.

Lesley recently returned from a fabulous trip to Cabo with her husband.

Diane is working hard and needs a vacation - she'll be going to Aruba soon!

Please keep Amy W. and her family in your thoughts and prayers as her father is facing some health issues.

Congratulations go out to the members of the new LBK on their recent progression!

Laureate Beta Kappa

Greetings to all from SWHCC's newest chapter!! We received our charter dated August 9, 2011, had our laureate ritual on August 15, so we are now official. Those who were eligible for the laureate degree met at Pat Roberts' home on August 15 to participate in the ritual. Winona LaBrant and Terry Colley were so gracious to do the honors. It was a wonderful evening celebrated by champagne and dinner afterwards. I must say on a personal note, this is one of the most beautiful rituals I have ever experienced and sums up your whole sorority and personal life. Thank you Winona and Terry for making it so very special.

On August 6, the Burtons, Engelharts, Stovers, Jan Girndt, Robert Roberts, and the Boyums and their granddaughter, Gabby, met at the Museum of Printing History for a guided tour for our cultural program. Little did we know that it would be such an interesting afternoon. We experienced hands on printing from the early 1500's through modern day. We also viewed a room of photos taken by Marvin Zindler in the 1950's when he was

the "official" photographer for the sheriff's department. It's well worth the trip if anyone's interested in the print media.

We celebrated our first Beginning Day on August 28 in the home of Jo Engelhart. We had 4 guests join us for our celebration: Mary Ann Depaula, Jan Roland, Carolyn Hopkins, and Cindy Hess. We celebrated the "birth" of our new chapter by holding a "Baby Shower" for the Pregnancy Help Center. Everyone brought baby items from formula to diapers to clothes to be donated to the Center for needy pregnant women in Katy. Our new yearbooks were also distributed.

Three members of our chapter Carolyn & Roy Johnston, Ruth and Sam Mayson, and Lois and Guy LaRose have new abodes in the Del Webb community of Sweetgrass in Richmond. All have moved in and are ready to get active in their new community.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Grace Wallace, PLBL, who is recovering from back surgery and a broken leg. We hope

Submitted by Judy Stover

to see you up and around again, Grace.

We are wishing the Roberts' Bon Voyage when they leave for their trip to Italy on September 6 for a three week vacation.

The Stovers are leaving on September 2 for a two week road trip to the Black Hills of South Dakota where Jim's high school class will be celebrating their 50th Class Reunion.

Stay cool and let's hope we get a little reprieve from this recording breaking heat.



Preceptor Nu

"Make new friends, keep the old!" That's a phrase y'all have heard me use A LOT! I really believe that...Well now, we'll all get a chance to practice that adage!! August 9, 2011 started a new year, with a new look and new faces. Recently, a portion of ladies who qualified, decided to "climb the next rung on the ladder," and progress together to a new Laureate chapter. Those who chose to, will continue as PN. So, as I said, we are "practicing what I preach!"

So, here we are "brand spanking new" and ready to "Ring in the New Year" on Saturday, September 4 at the elegant St. Regis Hotel. For our Happy New Year, we will enjoy an evening of drinks and dancing in a Fairyland of beauty! Symbolically, we'll sip champagne at midnight and toast the new exciting times to come!

Speaking of our new endeavor, we set the organization in motion at Goo Goo Yen's cause food makes everyone work better!!! And to that end, we've got a great slate of new officers including: President, Shirley H., V. Pres., Duang P., Recording Sec., Sandra S., Corresponding Sec., Carolyn M., and Treasurer, Duang. Have to stay flexible here as we've already added two new members....we'll be able to "spread the wealth." We've decided to start with a new type format. Our meetings, at this time will happen on the first Friday each month, while the guys are enjoying "Texas Hold-em" and then join the ladies after our meeting...Something for everyone!!!

Since most of us aren't that quiet...(ha, ha) we've already begun rushing and actually added our two new members at an evening at Pecan Grove Country Club. The two new ladies joined us for dinner and left

as "our new sisters!" These two new ladies, Michelle Lovelace and Janis Turocy, are excited about our new adventure! We have several other folks who want to share our vision so...we'll keep y'all informed.

Several Birthdays have come and gone lately. Sandra S. had a fun evening beginning at the Amazon Grill and then onto the new MUSIC BOX THEATRE...which used to be where we enjoyed "The Fertile Family." A good time was had by all...and Sandra laughed and smiled all evening!

Carolyn, who enjoys all things country/western celebrated her "un-birthday" recently too. The evening began at Spaghetti Western with Carolyn playing every Patsy Cline song on the jukebox...and everyone feasting on "Italian Nachos!" For those not familiar with this restaurant, think Clint Eastwood and his "spaghetti westerns" with great Peach Belinnis. Only sad element of the night, was the group planned a trip to see Hank Williams at STAGES, but they had cancelled the evening show...WHOA IS ME!!!! So, the group moved down the street for "toasts" on the birthday compliments of Gary and Sandra...THANKS!!! I do want to mention that my fantastic friend "Bob P." who works too hard and was able to join us...HOORAY!!!

Hope many of our sisters will be able to join us at the "ELVIS" evening at Churchill's Sport's Bar. Ladies, the show is about 3 hours long, with three costume changes representing three milestones in Elvis's career...he sings every song you can imagine...and Oh My!...when he does HOW GREAT THOU ART....well, tears rolled down my cheeks!!!! (Did I mention

Submitted by Carolyn Meeks

I'm sensitive!?)

Larry has finished #25 treatment this Friday...no ill effects...finish on September 23..."WOW!" We try to celebrate lots... cause we are SO blessed...soooo we took a little trip down to San Antonio with "Larry's adopted Sis" and the two of us. We did all the regular stuff, shops/gunslingers in Bandera, rowdy on the river, tacos at Taco Haven and shop in market...but greatest part..."High Hair and Jalapeno's" at the Cameo Theatre...political satire/music...GO, IT'S GREAT!

I sure hope to see "a ton" of you at OPEN MEETING...Melinda has a wonderful/hardworking committee and they have planned a "fantastic" evening!!! We are looking for lots of Beta Buddies and Friends...remember it's a "FIESTA!"...with fajitas and all...dress casual...but I will look like I could serve at Mi Tierra's in San Antonio.

So, our future changes directions and many fun times are on the horizon. As an aside, we wish only the best to the new Laureate Chapter. May all our days be filled with wonderment and none of us ever forget the importance of friendship and love.

Please keep Shirley/her family and especially her mom in your thoughts and prayers...life turns in circles, Shirley is now taking care of her mom as Mrs. Band lovingly did for her from childhood on....

God Bless Friends, and please come back next month!!!!

Xi Eta Epsilon and Beta Lambda Beta

The gals in XEE and BLB have been busy, busy, busy. Many of them involved with summer travels and family affairs. As the new year begins, we look forward to hearing about their adventures!

Most recently we saw Barbara Hupe, Becky Fuller, Sheila Ayres, Vicki Ryan and Joan Batts at the luncheon for Presidents, Vice Presidents and Chairmen. Barbara was seen cleaning her plate of the delicious lasagna! (Okay...inside joke—you had to be there!) And Sheila took home a beautiful surprise gift that matched her outfit perfectly!

Stay tuned for more news...

Preceptor Laureate Beta Lambda

Submitted by Terry Colley

Carole Sandoval writes: Finally, the time for Beginning Day arrived...on yet another heat breaking day. But we knew Terry Colley would have a great afternoon for us in her lovely home...and she did not disappoint. To cool us down, Terry had Yellow Rose punch as we gathered around two tables set with fine linens, crystal and silver with yellow rose centerpieces as we continued visiting and eating everything Terry provided!

Mary Horton, President, presided over the very moving BSP Memoriam for our sister, Gwen Vanzant. All sisters held white candles as Mary read and we remembered our years with Gwen and the great memories we all cherish. Not to be left out, Grace Wallace called so we could keep her up to date on chapter chatter. Grace is making good progress at Heath South on Hwy 6 and appreciates all the well wishes.

Terry Colley, program chair, presented our first program for the year with the theme "Traditions" and told about how August came about! As Secret Sister gifts were passed, Terry gave each of us one of her very special hand made plates with roses.

Winona LaBrant reports that their Grandson, Christopher Alan Zook, a sophomore at St. Thomas High School, has a communication through his Coach (no communications can be made from any college

until Sept 1st of his Junior year), inviting him and a traditional family (3 tickets) to attend the 3 September games at Michigan State as guests of Michigan State. Winona immediately said we have a "non-traditional" family and we need 5 tickets (Christopher, his Mother, his Dad, his Grandmother and his Granddad). Oh me!

Joyce Frank says she has now moved into her new apartment, still unpacking but enjoying the new space. Thanks go to Christopher and 4 of his friends for moving her. Joyce reports they were wonderful as they worked hard that Saturday and never complained. "It is wonderful to have great grandkids." She has enjoyed watching her grandkids, Christopher and Anna, take part in several FFA progress shows this summer showing off their animals. Christopher has a steer, TX, and a pig, Georgia. Anna has a goat, Louie and a pig, Missie. They have done well, with Anna winning her first belt buckle as she won grand champion showmanship with her pig. Joyce is looking forward to enjoying the new year with PLBL sisters and SWHCC sisters.

Grace Wallace is now at Healthsource Rehab Hospital. She is improving since her surgery to remove the tumor on her spine. She is doing extensive rehabilitation every day. Grace has a very positive attitude and is looking forward to returning home soon. She thanks everyone for

their concern and prayers for a speedy recovery. A special "thank you" to all her sisters in SWHCC. They have been supportive in every way.

Terry Colley spend a few days in Dallas before her son's knee replacement surgery. While there she designed and made a Hawaiian shirt for "Sluggo" the English bulldog. The most difficult thing was trying to make a pattern for the shirt. The dog kept eating the paper pattern. Son Bob's surgery was successful and he is home and doing extensive rehab. He is working hard on his exercises and wants to be walking naturally in about a month. His surgeon, Dr. Paul Peters, is the Dallas Cowboys physician.

Janann & Rick Gibbs have been busy with the grandkids this month. The month started with the annual trip to the Austin area for "Birthday Weekend". This year, the girls opted for a skating party - so Saturday was spent at the skating rink followed by a day on Lake Travis to celebrate our 37th anniversary. The three girls then came to Katy to spend a week with us for swimming and shopping. Cooper got his turn, as his day care was closed for a couple of days. Now September is for Janann and Rick, as they head out for a weekend in Napa, then a week in Hawaii.

Public Relations Committee

Submitted by Jill Coble

The other day while driving to work, I was listening to the radio. You know sitting in Houston traffic on your drive to work allows you to learn lots. The radio announcers were discussing a guy who had said that when he first meets someone, he makes sure to include seven words during the conversation. One of the words was "guarantee". At the time, I thought now how can a person use "guarantee" when first meeting someone. But then the longer I thought about it, I could see how it could work as we share the word about our organization. So the next time you are talking to someone about Beta Sigma Phi, why not end your conversation by saying "I guarantee you will like Beta Sigma Phi". Try it.....

Last month, I gave you all a challenge. To read the Public Relations article and then let me know you had read it. Thanks to those who responded (and one of you will be rewarded) but had hoped to hear from a few more. After all, as we publicize articles about Beta Sigma Phi, don't we want ladies to read them and give us a call? So I'm going to try again and use a little different technique this month and I guess you could say, I'm "picking" on a few people. If you see your name in the following list (Ethel Pennie, Chris Jones, Jan Ann Gibbs, Sandra Simpson, Ruth Mayson, Diane Giagnacovo, Becky Fuller, Ellie O'Dell, Erica Galvan, Barbara Hupe), then send me an email to jcoble3930@gmail.com and let me know you have read the PR article.

Until next month, remember to spread the word about our organization and don't forget to end the conversation with "I guarantee you will like Beta Sigma Phi".

Friendly Venture Report

Submitted by Duang Putnam

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

Last month the F/V Committee presented a new twist for recruiting, and how chapters could help increase membership. The two chapters who agreed to support the idea were XPG and PN. I am proud to report that in a short time these two chapters together gained four new members. It was a great start and hope there will be more to come.

With the summer being busy with travel and family time, no scheduled rushing events were held. However, we did stay in contact with names on our current Friendly Venture listing. Invitations for the Open Meeting have been distributed to them.

We also worked with the membership chairman during this period, contacting the transferees and members who are on member at large status. The outcome was delightful; one of the transferees has agreed to visit with BLP's chapter. The others expressed interest of getting back in BSP and would like to visit our council.

There will be a rush event in mid-September. If you have someone to refer please send their contact information to us. Think of people who you already have contact with, family and friends, school contacts, business associates, church and others such as: hair stylists, real estate contact, etc. You may be surprised of the names that you could come up with. According to the survey done by international, it confirms that the reason people do not join organizations is because they are not asked. So ladies get out there and do the....asking.

Thank you so much for your support and have a great and exciting new sorority year!

“Have Some Wine and a Really Good Time” ...a glimpse of the luncheon



It's Fiesta Time!

**Open Meeting
"Spread the Word of
Beta Sigma Phi...Fiesta Style"**

Saturday, October 8, 2011

6:00 - 10 pm

Old South Plantation

**Mexican Buffet with all the trimmings
dessert, water/tea/margarita punch**

\$23.00/person

Otherwise BYOB

**Spouses and Guest welcomed
"Remember It's Rushing Time"**

**DON'T
FORGET THE
DEADLINE**

Dress: Casual Fiesta Flair

**RSVP: Susan Fontenot
By September 23
23230 Willow Canyon Dr.
Katy, TX 77494**

Cake Auction

Door Prizes

Ways & Means

Music and Dancing

Open Meeting

Old South Plantation 5227 Skinner Lane Richmond, Texas 77406



Directions:

From Katy: Take TX-99 S/Grand Pkwy to West Bellfort Street turn right and proceed to Skinner Ln. turn right. Old South will be on the left side of the road.

From 59: Take TX-99 N/Grand Parkway to West Bellfort Street turn left and proceed to Skinner Ln. turn right. Old South will be on the left side of the road.

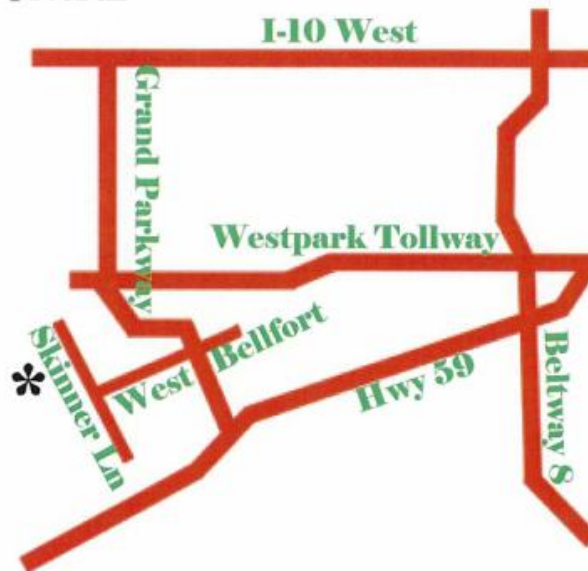
Look for the balloons.

Cake Auction:

“Fiesta de Abuela” whip up a bonita creation from grandma’s recipe. Each Chapter is responsible for bringing a homemade cake from an old recipe for the cake auction. Proceeds will go towards Council. Decorate the cake with Mexican flair and to entice bidders include a note card with a brief explanation of where you got the recipe and why you chose it.

Way & Means:

Chapters are welcome to participate in the Market Place. Set-up will start at 5:30 p.m. Chapter will need to supply their own table. Contact Kim Butner at 281-392-3667 to reserve space.



“About City Councils”

Source: Beta Sigma Phi International

Why should a member want to serve on council?

There are many reasons to be part of a city council. The most important one is that being on council gives you the opportunity to make new friends and connections by getting to know other sisters in other chapters in your community. It gives you the chance to see how things are done in other chapters in your town. It is an honor for your chapter to think enough of you to elect you to represent them in a city wide body. As a member of council, you have the opportunity of sharing ideas with other members, sharing your chapter's ideas and desires with the council and sharing other chapters' ideas and feelings with your chapter. You not only represent your chapter to council, but you represent all other chapters in council to your chapter.

As a member of council, you represent the best of Beta Sigma Phi . You can encourage your chapter to be involved in all aspects of the sorority through council, you can help publicize special events or achievements of your chapter or other members and chapters to council and to your community. And as a member of council, you can help remember that the most important entity in Beta Sigma Phi is the member, then her chapter and then city council as a whole and make sure all decisions made in council reflect this balance. Remember that your sisters have limited time and money and make decisions based on this knowledge. Council is there to guide the community of chapters and members, enhancing the Beta Sigma Phi experience for them, and to help enhance your community through Beta Sigma Phi.

What is the purpose of a City Council?

The purpose of a City Council is to promote inter-chapter harmony and good will. It is there to nurture the friendship between chapters of Beta Sigma Phi in your community, through cooperation and harmony in keeping with the ideals of Beta Sigma Phi. Council is to help members get acquainted with members of other chapters. Council will provide a way for chapter members to discuss and correlate their planning of city-wide events in which all chapters participate. Founder's Day, Beginning Day, Valentine's Day, First Lady of the Year, Christmas and Mother's Day are examples of city-wide events in which your council may coordinate efforts of several chapters to insure a well organized event. Council will also help chapters coordinate individual efforts, so chapters can avoid finding themselves with three different ways and means events on one weekend, thus helping all chapters have a successful project, but council does not have a voice in chapter decisions. Council may recommend, when asked, encourage and nurture, but never legislate.

Can any degree member be elected to represent her chapter or hold office?

Of course, all members of sorority have full rights and privileges from the moment they join the chapter as stated in "The Book of Beta Sigma Phi". It would not be fair if they didn't have all rights, including the right to serve as an officer.

Do We need a City Council?

A City Council can be a great asset to a community of Beta Sigma Phi chapters. It gives your members a feeling of the wider purpose of the organization than just being in your chapter does. It gives you the opportunity to meet and get to know other chapters and other members. It gives you the ability to have large events like Founder's Day and to get more recognition in your community through city-wide events and service projects. It is also very important as a means of keeping up the strength of your Beta Sigma Phi community. Councils can help with city-wide rushes, with Friendly Venture, with sharing transfer information and prospective member names and with something that is priceless, advice from other members who have greater experience with different areas of sorority. Council can and should be a storehouse of knowledge, experience and dedication to the organization and the needs of the members in the city.

How many chapters should you have in council?

A council isn't really necessary if you have fewer than four chapters. You might consider an Executive Coordinating Committee. You can get information on that from International. If you have four or more chapters, then a council is a good idea. If you have a very large geographic area, you may need more than one council within a metropolitan area. Many large cities have multiple councils, such as Kansas City, Houston, and areas in Virginia, wherever there is too much area to cover for one group. A council can be a mighty force in a city if it remembers that it is there for the individual member, for the chapters and for the organization, not for itself. If it remembers the needs of the members and the chapters and makes plans and budgets accordingly and supports events that make the members truly wish to support them, it is a successful council. When a council has the support of its members, it can move mountains!

“Our Colors of Tradition”

(cont'd from last month)

Speech presented by Marilyn Ross at the Washington State Convention

The color **blue** is our Flame of **Humility**...*"that sense of proportion which makes us meek in the presence of the miracle of Being, that sense of honor which causes us to seek nothing for ourselves, and when we have done a favor for another to put a seal upon our lips and forget what we have done."* Its giving up pride and putting your best foot forward.

I placed 4 of our traditions in the blue category:

1. Members are known by their: Graciousness, charm, poise, self-expression, friendliness, loyalty, leadership, appreciation of the finer things in life
2. Rushing
3. A pledge may choose any member (one who has received the RJ degree or higher) to be her sorority mother ... who acts as her guide. In the Pledge Ritual we hear: *"The flaming Torch is the light of learning, a guide, meaning that YOU are guided by the light of learning and are yourself a guide to others . . ."*

To do this well and successfully requires a measure of humility.

4. Mother's Day

Imagine taking a walk on a bright, sunny, blue-sky-with-no-clouds-day. You notice a rock lying in your path. It looks interesting, so you pick-it-up. You take it home and wash it. You polish it and it soon takes on a beautiful, sparkling glow. Beta Sigma Phi does this for us, too! Just look around and see those smiles!!!

When we make time for others, bring to membership or share time with a sister, we bring out the best in her and in ourselves.

"I want nothing from you except yourself. I accept you. I need you as my friend. And in doing so, we realize we cannot and do not walk alone."

Violet, our color for **Service**. *"A component of Humility and Courage, service is that gift of yourself to life, that performance of duty which lightens the burdens of another and lightens the darkness of yourself for 'in loyal and loving service to others the love of self is forgotten."*

Two significant traditions are in this category:

1. Rushing
2. Pledge Training - It's a service we owe and present to our pledges, to share with them how we do things, teach them our traditions, and show them how to be Beta Sigma Phis!

To know what to do is . . . wisdom.

To know how to do it is . . . skill.

To do a thing as it should be done is . . . Service !

Service - that gift of yourself to life!

Xi Phi Gamma

Summer is almost done, with kids back in school and family vacations over. Perhaps the sun and weather will soon decide that it is time for cooler fall temps. And some rain would be a welcome addition!

Beginning Day for XPG is Saturday, September 3. Sisters will be gathering to celebrate the beginning of another chapter year. Each member is bringing a tea cup to exchange as part of the opening festivities at a local tearoom. Jill has invited friends Paula and Megan to attend.

Melissa Dailey hosted a Pampered Chef party this summer that many members attended. Cooking, tasting and new kitchen tools were part of the fun.

Melinda and Jill vacationed at the Jersey Shore and came back relaxed and rested. Restaurants, beach time and shopping were just part of their adventures. We asked Jill if she saw "Snooki" (character from Jersey Shores) and she laughed and said she would not know Snooki even if she saw her.

Kim, Jill, Patricia and Melinda all attended the council's President/VP and Committee Chairman luncheon hosted by Carolyn Meeks at Corelli's Italian restaurant. Thanks to Sandra Simpson for sharing with us her knowledge of wines. While she talked, we drank!

Our first chapter meeting of the new year will be on September 12, at the home of President Kim Butner. XPG officers met

Submitted by Sandy Dickey

at Kim's house in August, planning and organizing for a fun-filled year.

XPG is excited about Open Meeting on October 8, with its Fiesta Style theme. We hope you are thinking of who you can invite!

We look forward to seeing all our sisters at the next council meeting!

Happy Grandparent's Day to all of our Grandmothers out there in BSP!

National Grandparents Day is a secular holiday celebrated in the United States since 1978 and officially recognized in a number of countries on various days of the year, either as one holiday or sometimes as a separate Grandmothers Day and Grandfathers Day.

History

Marian McQuade of Oak Hill, West Virginia, has been recognized nationally by the United States Senate – in particular by Senators Jennings Randolph; and Robert Byrd – and by President Jimmy Carter, as the founder of National Grandparents Day. McQuade made it her goal to educate the youth in the community about the important contributions seniors have made throughout history. She also urged the youth to "adopt" a grandparent, not just for one day a year, but rather for a lifetime.

In 1973, Senator Jennings Randolph (D-WV) introduced a resolution to the Senate to make Grandparents Day a national holiday. West Virginia's Governor Arch Moore had proclaimed an annual Grandparents Day for the state, at the urging of Marian McQuade. When Senator Randolph's resolution in the U.S. Senate died in committee, Marian McQuade organized supporters and began contacting governors, senators, and congressmen in all fifty states. She urged each state to proclaim their own Grandparents Day. Within three years, she had received Grandparents Day proclamations from forty-three states. She sent copies of the proclamations to Senator Randolph.

In February, 1977, Senator Randolph, with the concurrence of many other senators, introduced a Joint Resolution to the Senate requesting the President to "issue annually a proclamation designating the first Sunday of September after Labor Day of each year as 'National Grandparents Day'." Congress passed the legislation proclaiming the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day and, on August 3, 1978, then-President Jimmy Carter signed the proclamation. The statute cites the day's purpose as: "...to honor grandparents, to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children, and to help children become aware of strength, information, and guidance older people can offer".

Some people claim the origin of the holiday resides with the efforts of Hermine Beckett Hanna of North Syracuse, New York, recognizing seniors and their importance as early as 1961. On February 21, 1990, New York Congressman James T. Walsh recognized the efforts of Hermine Beckett Hanna in front of the U.S. House of Representatives, thanking her "for her important role in the establishment of Grandparents Day".

Xi Alpha Zeta

Submitted by Nina Coltharp

August may be HOT, HOT, HOT – but the rocking XAZ sisters are HOTTER!!!

Please see our photo collage from a wonderful Beginning Day at Little Italy's Maggianos on Post Oak. Joan did a terrific job picking out the location and menu and she had the traditional yellow rose for us at our seat with a bag of chocolates. Debbie made each of us a special BSP 80th anniversary paper weight. President Rita gave each one of us a mini bottle of Godiva Liqueur in memory of our chocolate martini parties! Our very talented Miriam made each one of the XAZ sisters a new black and white quilted bag embroidered with our names. Talented sisters, Jeanne P and Diana did a fabulous job with our new yearbooks - tools and all to go along with the theme "Building our Future on Traditions". AND another talented sister, Debbie, surprised outgoing President Diana with a beautiful framed photo collage of our past year and she made extra copies for all us sisters too. What more can a SISTER ask for?!

WE ARE A CHAPTER OF SISTERS SHARING OUR TALENTS AND LOVE WITH ONE ANOTHER...AND BUILT ON THE BSP TRADITIONS OF LIFE, LEARNING, AND FRIENDSHIP.

We are also dedicated to all our fellow BSP sisters and helping out in the community. At the end of our Beginning Day, we presented our very own sister, Suzy Penny with a check to help towards the purchase of her new insulin pump. We love you Suzy.

SPECIAL PRAYERS: We have been praying for Suzy's father, Arthur Penny, who will be in the hospital another three months for long term rehab. Rich and Donna's grandson need lots of prayers too – baby Reid William Unangst has not been released from the hospital since his birth. We have added Jeanne P's daughter to our list of prayers. Kelsey Peltier broke her foot and will not be able to walk or put any pressure on her foot for the

next 8 to 10 weeks. We continue to pray for Shirley's mother, Grace and her rehab, and for Sheila and her family with the recent death of her father.

CONGRATS: We Congratulate Rita's son for passing his Ph.D. defense. He is now known as "Dr. J.T. Mayo".

PRAYERS ANSWERED: Hurricane Irene spared Rich and Donna's New Jersey Shore home. AND, all is well for us and our annual XAZ summer trip to the shore. You can also join in on our fun and come to XAZ's annual summer luncheon where you may bid on a week's stay at this beautiful OCEAN CITY shore home!!!

We are looking forward to an exciting and busy year with our chapter and with all the upcoming SWHCC events...and of course - we continue to pray for RAIN, RAIN,



Historical Trivia...

- ★ Did you know the saying "God willing and the Creek don't rise" was in reference to the Creek Indians and not a body of water? It was written by Benjamin Hawkins in the late 18th century. He was a politician and Indian diplomat. While in the south, Hawkins was requested by the President of the U.S. to return to Washington. In his response, he was said to write, "God willing and the Creek don't rise." Because he capitalized the word "Creek" it is deduced that he was referring to the Creek Indian tribe and not a body of water.
- ★ In George Washington's days, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of George Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but by how many limbs were to be painted. Arms and legs are 'limbs,' therefore painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, 'Okay, but it'll cost you an arm and a leg.' (Artists know hands and arms are more difficult to paint)
- ★ As incredible as it sounds, men and women took baths only twice a year (May and October) Women kept their hair covered, while men shaved their heads (because of lice and bugs) and wore wigs. Wealthy men could afford good wigs made from wool. They couldn't wash the wigs, so to clean them they would carve out a loaf of bread, put the wig in the shell, and bake it for 30 minutes. The heat would make the wig big and fluffy, hence the term 'big wig...' Today we often use the term 'here comes the Big Wig' because someone appears to be or is powerful and wealthy.
- ★ In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the 'chair man.' Today in business, we use the expression or title 'Chairman' or 'Chairman of the Board.'
- ★ Personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread bee's wax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face she was told, 'mind your own bee's wax.' Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term 'crack a smile'. In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt. . . . Therefore, the expression 'losing face.'
- ★ Ladies wore corsets, which would lace up in the front. A proper and dignified woman, as in 'straight laced' wore a tightly tied lace..
- ★ Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the 'Ace of Spades...' To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't 'playing with a full deck.'
- ★ Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TV's or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to 'go sip some Ale and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. 'You go sip here' and 'You go sip there.' The two words 'go sip' were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and, thus we have the term 'gossip.'
- ★ At local taverns, pubs, and bars, people drank from pint and quart-sized containers. A bar maid's job was to keep an eye on the customers and keep the drinks coming. She had to pay close attention and remember who was drinking in 'pints' and who was drinking in 'quarts,' hence the phrase 'minding your 'P's and Q's'.
- ★ In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem....how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a 'Monkey' with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make 'Brass Monkeys.' Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey; Thus, it was quite literally, 'Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey.' (All this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you.)

*Beta Sigma Phi
Southwest Houston City Council*

For more information:

Carolyn Meeks
Phone: 281-545-1012

E-mail: pollygirlcm@comcast.net

www.bspswhcc.com

Motto:
Life, Learning,
Friendship

ΒΣΦ



Executive Board

<i>President</i>	<i>Carolyn Meeks, PN</i>
<i>President Elect</i>	<i>Melinda Montgomery, XPG</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Erica Galvan, BLP</i>
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	<i>Patricia Benavides, XPG</i>
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	<i>Rita Mayo, XAZ</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Barbara Hupe, XEE</i>
<i>Parliamentarian</i>	<i>Duang Putnam, PN</i>

Grandparent's Day...continued from page 10

Official song of U.S. Grandparents Day

In 2004, the National Grandparents Day Council of Chula Vista, CA announced that *A Song for Grandma and Grandpa* by Johnny Prill would be the official song of the U.S. National Grandparents Day holiday.

The National Grandparents Day Council presented Prill with the National Songwriter's Award in recognition of his highly popular composition "A Song for Grandma and Grandpa."

The Council announced Prill's award early in order that schools, churches and other groups who wish to perform his song for Grandparents Day will have time to acquire and rehearse the song. The song was chosen because "Grandparents Day gives grandchildren across the nation the opportunity to show love and appreciation for their grandparents. Johnny Prill's *A Song for Grandma and Grandpa* is exemplary of such appreciation."

Former President Jimmy Carter, who signed a proclamation in 1978 making Grandparents Day a national holiday, sent Prill an autographed photo stating, "Best wishes to Johnny."

United States Senator Debbie Stabenow told Prill: "It is wonderful that 'A Song for Grandma and Grandpa' was chosen as the official song of National Grandparents Day. What a special tribute to your talent as a songwriter. You have put into words the unique relationship between grandparents and their grandchildren."

American folk singer Pete Seeger stated, "Here's to Johnny Prill and his song for National Grandparents Day. May his song spread around the world and be translated into many languages!"

Official flower of U.S. Grandparents Day

The official flower of the U.S. National Grandparents Day is the forget-me-not which blooms in the spring. As a result, seasonal flowers are given in appreciation to grandparents on this day.

The U.S.'s National Grandparents Day is the first Sunday after Labor Day, in September.

Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org>