

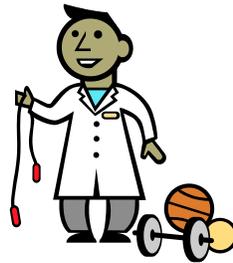
# BETA THETA CHATTA AND NEWS

**What:** March\_Meeting

**Where:** Ronald McDonald House community room

**When:** Saturday March 8, 9:00AM

## March 8 is our Wellness Meeting!



All of us can improve our personal health and fitness, no matter what our age or current condition. Doug Fickes, DPT, MPC, is going to be presenting a wellness program for us at our meeting on March 8. Dr. Fickes practices at First Choice Physical Therapy and is an engaging speaker, who has a great sense of humor. He is passionate about each person’s ongoing well-being rather than just treating illness or disability. He promises to help each of us rethink our own personal fitness and health.



### Grant-in-aid

Do you know a young lady who plans to become a teacher? (God bless her...) We will be looking for a new one when Lauren gets her degree this May.

Be on the lookout!

### Found in this issue:

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- A Tribute to E.Margaret Gabel
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- Heart Rescue
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- Little Dresses for Africa Cottage Meeting
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- New Slate of Officers
- Where I’m From
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## My view from the barn:



Two women: born in the same year, having a profound influence on my life and gone within days of each other. Of course, I speak of our very own E. Margaret and the venerable Shirley Temple.

Shirley Temple was a person who I admired and mimicked from the time that I can remember watching television. We got ours when I was two. I don't remember that far back, but I do remember watching her at a time when I was convinced that the people were really in that magical box. I so wanted to sing and dance with her, but I soon realized that that just wasn't going to happen. I marveled in later years when I was actively performing in the theater how such a young child could remember all those lines, dance steps, and songs; and execute them so perfectly. I also know that I believed her so much that I could not watch a single movie of hers without crying. When she became an Ambassador and representative of the United Nations, I felt that she was possibly the most trustworthy person in America. Do we have anyone like her in today's world? She never sought out publicity or seemingly even cared. She happened to be an amazing child who was in adulthood happy to go about her life as a wife and mother, and serve her country.

E. Margaret was also a grand lady who did not seek the spotlight. I met her only in 2006, not that many years ago. I learned of her being the President of Beta Theta by accident from others, and it wasn't until I attended my first State Convention during that grand ceremony, when they introduce the past Presidents that I found out she had, in fact been the President of Alpha Alpha State. From that moment forward, it truly amazed me that she was never one to complain about anything...particularly how things were being handled either at our local level or the state. At least I never heard her say anything negative. She let go of her "power" in such a gracious and lovely way. She even served tea in a genial and lovely manner. I can only imagine how difficult it must have been for her to have to acquiesce to the limitations of her body as of late. But then too, she never complained. I think I she has inspired a new mantra for me: "WWEMDO" (What Would E. Margaret Do?)

May both of these truly beautiful women rest in peace, and be a model for generations to come.





## A word from the Membership Committee:

The Membership Committee has been busy talking with potential new members. We have several ladies who are very interested so we have invited them to attend our March Meeting. They are looking forward to meeting the members and learn more about Beta Theta/DKG. I hope that many of you will be in attendance and will give these Prospective Members a very warm Beta

Theta welcome.

Marcy and Anna



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN.... TO NYC!

Please see the attached flyer, but here is a more detailed description of the possibilities of the offers:

*If you choose "Cabaret":*

1. The show takes place in the VERY historic Studio 54 of the Disco Era
2. It stars the Tony award winner Alan Cummings reprising his MC character

And the marvelous Michelle Williams in her first major musical role (even though she has sung in some movies)

3. Our group will get the rare opportunity to meet with a leading artist from "Cabaret".

This one-hour session features exhilarating private performances, "success stories", backstage anecdotes and memorable career moments in the featured artists' lives.

*If you choose "Aladdin":*

1. The show takes place in the newly renovated New Amsterdam Theater
2. It is a Disney production! (No more needs to be said!)

3. You will experience the New Amsterdam Behind-the-Magic Tour which is an amazing experience for guests of all ages. Our group will discover the beautifully restored art and architecture of this landmark Broadway theater built in 1903, once home to the legendary Ziegfeld Follies. Then you will explore the history and magic of Disney Theatrical Productions in the prop studio by getting up-close and personal with original props, costumes, and set pieces that bring this world to life.

Beta Theta  
Presents: New York City!  
**YOUR CHOICE!**  
**TWO NEW SHOWS!**

*Disney's "Aladdin"*

with a tour of the New Amsterdam  
Theater

OR

*"Cabaret"*

Starring Alan Cummings & Michelle Williams &  
a "talk session" with one of the stars

WHEN: June 25, 2014

WHERE TO MEET: K-Mart on Rt. 22 @ 7:00 AM  
Leaving NYC at 6:30 PM

RSVP TO: Donna Winch @ 571-6117,  
[winch@comcast.net](mailto:winch@comcast.net)

BY MARCH 20, 2014 \$100 is due to secure your seat at this time.

Balance by June 1.

COST: \$185.00: PAYABLE TO BETA THETA

SEND TO: DONNA WINCH, 1060 WOODRIDGE DR.,  
MIDDLETOWN, PA 17057

TICKETS ARE LIMITED!

## Cottage Meeting!

**WHAT: Let's make some beautiful jewelry!**



Peggy Gekas (pegona designs) will teach us how to make our own natural stones necklace or bracelet.

WHERE: Norma's House

WHEN: Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00

COST: \$20 (bring that day)

LIGHT LUNCH AFTERWARDS

## **BETA THETA FUNDRAISER**



**April 22, 2014**

**Isaac's**

**Tec Port on Paxton St. @ 5-9 p.m.**

**Harrisburg, PA**

We will be hosting a fundraiser April 22, 2014 at Isaac's Restaurant in the Tec Port on Paxton St. Harrisburg from 5-9 p.m. We will receive twenty-five percent of the sales from our fliers! We will be handing out fliers at the four chapter meeting on April 12 and via email. Please give them to your friends, relatives, and neighbors. They must be presented when you order and are good for eat in or carry out. We cannot give them out at the restaurant or parking lot. We can have a good time and not have to cook and make some money for our chapter. See you there!

## A Tribute to E. Margaret Gabel

By Suzanne M. Long



E. Margaret Gabel, the 25th president of Alpha Alpha State, passed away on February 6, 2014 at the Masonic Home in Elizabethtown. Born August 10, 1928, she earned her BS in Education at Kutztown State College and her MSLS at Syracuse University. Her career as a librarian took her to Susquehanna University, Indiana State College of Pennsylvania, and Elizabethtown College.

Initiated in 1963 by Epsilon Chapter in Indiana, Pennsylvania, Margaret transferred her membership to Beta Theta Chapter when she moved to Elizabethtown. Beta Theta was a young chapter and Margaret became active immediately. She served as chapter president in the 1970-72 biennium. When Beta Theta was tapped to host a fall area conference in 1974, Margaret proudly hosted it at Elizabethtown College and made sure we all understood the protocols of the time. I was a recent initiate and was the chapter's new recording secretary. Margaret and I sat together at the conference and she made sure I met our state leaders and participated fully in that conference. She served the state as convention treasurer for several years and made sure she took Beta Theta to the state meetings with her and put us all to work. When she began her climb through the state offices in the 1980's, Beta Theta was with her. We were tapped to serve on state committees and eventually state offices. As state president in the 1987-89 biennium, E. Margaret kept Beta Theta busy. In 1988 she became the second person to receive the Beta Theta Chapter Achievement Award.

After her retirement from Elizabethtown College, community activities filled her time. E. Margaret was defined by her love of books, music, gardening, crafts, history, and service to her community. She sang in the church choir and in every DKG chorus at state, regional and international conventions. Her garden was her pride and joy and she belonged to the garden club. The Elizabethtown Historical Society elected her president and the police department named her an outstanding volunteer for all the time she spent helping at the

station. All of these community activities made her a Woman of Distinction in 2004, 2006 and 2009. She loved to travel and did it whenever she could get away. She took me to my first Northeast Regional Conference in 1991 in Pittsburgh (she was on the planning committee) and the last trip we took together was to the 2009 NERC in Burlington, Vermont. In between, we attended many other conferences and conventions together. Margaret taught me to love and respect Delta Kappa Gamma as she did. The greatest lesson I learned was to give of myself to this Society and expect the best of the Society to come back to me. E. Margaret did that. She developed a network of friends and supporters across the Pennsylvania and throughout DKG. She mentored Beta Theta's chapter presidents and frequently served them as parliamentarian. She identified young women as leaders in education and brought them into DKG and nurtured them.

E. Margaret Gabel was my mentor and my friend for forty years. I'll miss our November breakfast meetings at Friendly's in Hershey when she brought my annual pecan order. I'll miss our travels together and sharing a meals with her in fancy restaurants, on riverboats and picnic tables. Breakfast was her favorite meal. I'll always remember her expressive hands and the lovely rings she wore. We have been blessed to have E. Margaret as our friend, sister and mentor. She was a kind and gentle woman who found the best in everyone. She is a model for each of us.

From Merle:

Please enter my note of appreciation:

"Thank you dear Beta Theta Sisters for the lovely Spring arrangement of Tulips. It brightened up my days. My 'vacation' in the Hospital lasted one week. The surgery I was scheduled for on the 20th was postponed for another 4-6 wks. The surgery is to correct the Mitral Valve's problem of skipping & racing which caused the blood clot.

Once again, THANK YOU!

Love,  
Merle



## What to do if you see someone suddenly collapse.

If you see someone collapse suddenly, check if the victim is responsive. If not, remember these three easy steps.



**Call 911:** Have them send help. Stay on the line and listen for further instructions.



**Start Chest Compressions:** If the person is not breathing normally, start chest compressions. Push down hard and fast in the center of the chest. Keep your arms straight. Send someone to find an AED.



**Use An AED:** The AED (automated external defibrillator) is a portable medical device that delivers an electrical shock to restart a person's heart. It provides voice prompts that tell you exactly what to do and will administer a shock only if needed, so there's no reason to hesitate.

For more information, go to this site. It's not as difficult as you think!

<http://www.heartrescuenow.com/>

### WEBSITES TO KNOW & REMEMBER

BETA THETA WEB SITE

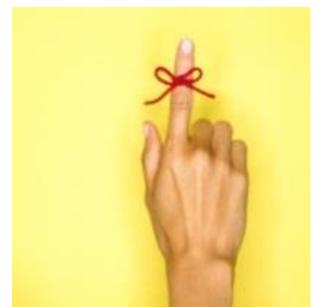
<http://betathetaharrisburg.weebly.com>

ALPHA ALPHA STATE WEBSITE

<http://www.alphaalphapa.com>

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA INTERNATIONAL WEBSITE

<http://www.dkg.org>



# Little Dresses for Africa Cottage Meeting

You can make a difference in the life of a child who has no clothes and very few opportunities!

You can help send her a dress that says, "I know you are there and I care."

That says, "It is important to me that you go to school."

That says, " You can have a dream and reach for it."

Join us in the Little Dresses for Africa Project.

**We will sew together on Thursday, April 24 at 1:00 at Norma's house.**

All materials will be provided. You CAN bring a pair of scissors though!

Mark and Becky Willoughby are taking a mission trip to Ghana to help set up irrigation systems for local farmers. They have 16 of our little dresses and will give them to a school in one of the villages they work in. They would not accept any payment for shipping and included the dresses in their own luggage. They have promised to share some of their pictures.

We also have another contact from Ghana who has family there. She is a delightful woman who lives in Steelton and will send dresses to her sister who lives in Ghana. She would love to help us sew and is also excited to share the dresses with girls in Africa. She plans to be at our cottage meeting to help sew and so we can meet and talk to her.



**WATCH FOR THIS SYMBOL ON YOUR  
NEW CARDS**



**OK, folks.....this is VERY important for you to know.....**

**Check your newer credit cards for the Wi-Fi Symbol on it. You need to watch the video below to really know why this is so important.**

**Wi-Fi Symbol on your Credit Card (Radio Frequency Card)**

**YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING! WATCH VIDEO AND CHECK YOUR CARDS. I GUESS WE GO BACK TO CASH.**

<http://youtube.googleapis.com/v/ILAFhTjsQHw%26sns=em>

# Ronald McDonald House

At Hershey, PA

## Wish List



### Gift Cards for Purchase of Food & Supplies:

Giant, Karns Quality Foods, KMart, Sheetz, Turkey Hill, Wal-Mart, Weis, and prepaid long distance telephone cards.

### Food Items:

Single Serving foods: cereal, microwave foods/entrees, breakfast bars, and healthy snacks; i.e. trail mix, nuts, dried fruit, etc. Pretzels, crackers, toaster pastries, juice boxes, fresh fruit, slice & bake cookies. Non-dairy creamer. Please NO popcorn or gum. ☺

### House Supply Items:

Corelle "Winter Frost White" dishes, large Tupperware or Rubbermaid food storage containers, disinfectant spray, toilet bowl & bathroom cleaners, high efficiency (HE) laundry detergent, dryer sheets, durable paper towels, napkins, 13-gallon trash bags, resealable or zippered snack and sandwich bags, gallon freezer bags, 13, 19, & 26-watt compact fluorescent bulbs, night lights and bulbs, disposable "to go" containers, disposable gloves, and hair nets.

### Hygiene Items:

Travel-size shampoo, conditioner, mouthwash, body wash, deodorant, shaving cream, etc. Hairbrushes, lip balm, adult toothbrushes & toothpaste, men's & women's disposable razors.

### Office Items:

1st Class or Forever stamps, 8 ½ x 11" copy paper, Staples or Office Max gift cards.

WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT NEW/UNUSED ITEMS AND NON-EXPIRED FOOD PRODUCTS - THANK YOU! For more information about our organization, or to donate online, please visit our website at: [www.rmhc-centralpa.org](http://www.rmhc-centralpa.org) 745 West Governor Road ♥ Hershey, PA 17033-2304 ♥ Phone: (717) 533-4001 © 2012 McDonald's Rev. 2/20/12

### Toys & Recreational Items:

NEW toys and games for children of all ages (i.e. Barbie dolls, Lego kits, hand-held electronic toys, and infant toys. Coloring books, adult crossword/game books, passes to local attractions, & family DVD's (G to PG-13 Rating).

Please NO Playdoh, chalk, foam stickers or used stuffed animals or toys. ☺

### Meals and Baked Goods:

Our families are grateful to have meals provided for them. Families, groups of friends, clubs, civic organizations, and church groups prepare meals at the House each day for our families. All meals and baked goods must be prepared commercially or at the Ronald McDonald House®. Please call (717) 533-4001 Ext 158 to schedule a breakfast or dinner for our families.

### Cash Donations:

For general day-to-day operations of the Hershey Ronald McDonald House and Ronald McDonald Family Room®.

### Volunteer:

Our Volunteers are vital to our day-to-day operations. Please consider becoming a Volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House or the Ronald McDonald Family Room. Contact Pam Vesce at (717) 533-4001 Ext. 158.

### Gift Registry:

[www.kohls.com](http://www.kohls.com) and [www.jcpenney.com](http://www.jcpenney.com) First name (Ronald) last name (McDonald). Any questions, contact Deb Stegall at (717) 533-4001 Ext 152. Gift Cards are also welcome!

### SERVICES NEEDED:

Licensed plumber or deeply discounted labor on plumbing services.

Checklist for the **March 8 Meeting:**



- **Wear your pin**
- **Bring your Beta Theta Yearbook**
- **Bring your book and Mini Pages for Books for Foose**
- **Donations for Mary's Helpers (for Norma)**
- **Old State and International Publications**
- **Donations for McDonald House**
- **Bring your soda can tabs**
- **Down payment to secure spot on New York trip**
- **Grant-in-aid nominee**



*Like to read? Join the Beta Theta Book Club!*

Members of the Beta Theta Book Club gathered at the home of Stephany Davidson on February 24th to discuss ***The Art Forger*** by B. A. Shapiro. The story was set in Boston and took the readers through a history of art masterpieces, the techniques used by artists and forgers and, of course, a little romance and lots of intrigue.

The next gathering will be on April 28th. Anita Shreve's ***Stella Bain*** is the next read. The story is set in WWII. This book is available for Kindles and other e-books and in hardback. The paperback version won't be available until mid-May.

If you would like to join us for the next Book Club meeting, please contact Suzanne Long at LongSuz@aol.com for details.

## EVENTS TO MARK IN YOUR CALENDARS!!!



Mar. 1: Professional Growth & Leadership Conference (for ALL members) @ State College  
March 6: Beta Theta Exec. Board Meeting @ Brownstone @ 1:00  
March 29: Cottage Meeting: Make your own jewelry with Peggy Gekas of  
Pegona Designs @ Norma's @ 10:00  
April 12: 4 Chapter Meeting @ Rillo's @ 11:00  
April 22: Fund Raiser: Eat at Isaac's Day  
April 24: Little Dresses @ Norma's @ 1:00  
April 28: Book Club: Details TBA  
May 2 & 3: Alpha Alpha State Convention Choral Retreat @ Middletown  
June 13-15: Alpha Alpha State Convention @ State College  
July 28 – Aug. 1: International Convention @ Indianapolis, IN

### Officers for the 2014-2016 biennium

were elected at the November 2013 meeting and will be installed at our May meeting ~

President - Norma Mateer

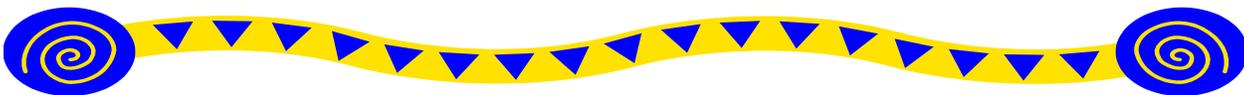
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Anna MacDonald

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Marcy Sharpe and Stephanie Davidson

Recording/Corresponding Secretary - Kathy Dunn

Treasurer - Nancy Thompson

Nominations Committee Members - Jeannette Thomas and Susan Bay



## Remember our "Where I'm From" Project?

Have you completed yours yet? Please contact Donna so she can plan for your addition to the agenda!

This will be cool way for us to leave our legacy, please get yours done now! Go to <http://www.georgeellalyon.com/where.html> for more info.

If you need the template, here it is:

### **The WHERE I'M FROM Template**

I am from \_\_\_\_\_ (specific ordinary item), from \_\_\_\_\_ (product name) and \_\_\_\_\_.

I am from the \_\_\_\_\_ (home description... adjective, adjective, sensory detail).

I am from the \_\_\_\_\_ (plant, flower, natural item), the \_\_\_\_\_ (plant, flower, natural detail)

I am from \_\_\_\_\_ (family tradition) and \_\_\_\_\_ (family trait), from \_\_\_\_\_ (name of family member) and \_\_\_\_\_ (another family name) and \_\_\_\_\_ (family name).

I am from the \_\_\_\_\_ (description of family tendency) and \_\_\_\_\_ (another one).

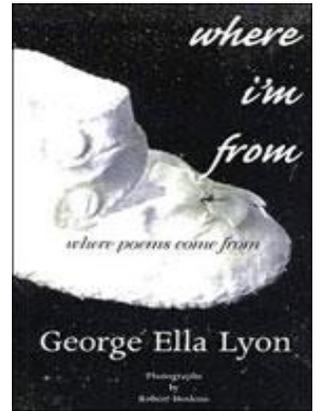
From \_\_\_\_\_ (something you were told as a child) and \_\_\_\_\_ (another).

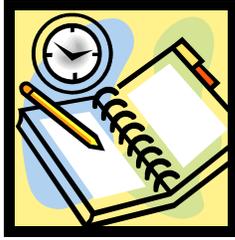
I am from (representation of religion, or lack of it). Further description.

I'm from \_\_\_\_\_ (place of birth and family ancestry), \_\_\_\_\_ (two food items representing your family).

From the \_\_\_\_\_ (specific family story about a specific person and detail), the \_\_\_\_\_ (another detail, and the \_\_\_\_\_ (another detail about another family member).

I am from \_\_\_\_\_ (location of family pictures, mementos, archives and several more lines indicating their worth.





**Delta Kappa Gamma**  
**Alpha Alpha State, Pennsylvania**  
**Beta Theta Chapter November 9,**  
**2013**



The November meeting of Beta Theta was held at the Ronald McDonald House Community Room in Hershey, PA. Twenty ladies were in attendance--nineteen members and Joanne Lewis, our guest presenter.

Hostess for the meeting was Louise Poorman. Beta Theta officers assisted Louise.

Delta Kappa Gamma, "Queen for The Day," was Louise Poorman.

Sharing the vision, "Where I'm From," was Shirley Newhart.

Winners of the game, "What Sister Are We Talking About?" were Rosemary Ruhl, Marlene Popnik and Kathy Dunn.

Recording Secretary Kathy Dunn reported that the minutes were printed in the Newsletter. The minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer Nancy Thompson provided a written report adding that there are Bon Ton Community Day coupon booklets still available. Nancy noted that as of today we have members who have not paid their membership dues. Members volunteered to contact those members using our newly established "Buddy System." The treasurer's report will be filed for review.

**Information gathering** - New Directories, yearbooks, attendance sheets, and the sign-up sheet for the Christmas Dinner on **December 10, 2013. 6:00 p.m.** at the Warwick Hotel are available.

## **Committee Reports**

**Ways and Means** – Marlene Popnik, Rosemary Ruhl and Nancy Thompson reminded everyone to purchase the Bon Ton Community Day Booklets. They also asked for volunteers to sell community coupons at the Bon Ton Store during the community days. Marlene is planning a coupon-dining fundraiser. This coupon-dining program is with Isaac's Restaurant. The date is **April 22, 2014**. Norma Mateer will assist her in getting the final information out to the members. Marlene conducted the 50/50 drawing; today's winner was Jeannette Thomas.

**Grant in Aide** - Donna Winch reported that the Premier Jewelry Fundraiser, hosted by Suzanne Long, was a great success. The profit for Grant in Aid was \$235.

**Membership Committee** – In the near future, Marcy Sharpe and her committee will be meeting with perspective members. The Membership Tea was cancelled, but the committee is moving forward and planning special social events for future members.

## **Unfinished Business**

**Literacy Grant for Reading in Steelton** - Members who are working to write the Grant are Donna Winch, Norma Mateer, Marlene Popnik, Marcy Sharpe and Jeannette Thomas. The committee will be coordinating this project with the outreach program, "Mary's Helpers." This program was established in Steelton by Sister Frances, one of our own deceased members.

**Support for Early – Career Teachers** - The materials collected today will be organized and packed in gift bags. The project will be completed this Tuesday evening, **November 12, 2013**, at Donna Winch's home. The school materials will go to early-career teachers in the Elizabethtown School District.

**Books for Foose** - Susan Bay continues to take books and reading material to Foose Elementary. Foose Elementary, at present, only goes up to the fourth grade. It was suggested that we also support the Title 1 programs in the Central Dauphin School District. Books and reading materials are needed as the funds have been drastically reduced. Members are asked to continue to provide books.

**At 10:20 the program was presented by Joanne Lewis, "Sallie," a women educator; her life and her contributions during the Gettysburg Battle.**

## **New Business**

**Book Club** - Shirley Newhart reports that the book club has changed their book choice. The new book will be, Jersey Literary Society's, "Potato Peel Pie," by Mary Shaffer. The club will send out information concerning their next get-together.

**State Chorus Retreat** - Shirley Newhart would like to hold a pre-State choral workshop in order to prepare singers for the State Convention. The workshop would be **Friday Evening, May 2, and Saturday May 3, 2014**. Beta Theta and the other four county chapters will need to provide overnight housing etc. Shirley is asking us to keep the dates open and help with housing.

**Fashion Show Fundraiser** - Donna Winch is coordinating with another chapter in the planning of a fashion show/luncheon to be held **March 29, 2014**, at the Colonial Country Club. Cold Water Creek and Pegonia Jewelry Designs are already interested in being a part of the show. Gaye Hicks, and Nancy Thompson volunteered to help. The committee will be sending out more information.

**Four Chapter Meeting** - The four-chapter meeting is scheduled for **April 12, 2014**. Our chapter has been asked to provide the musical entertainment. Visual and Performing Arts Chair Marcy Sharpe will coordinate the program.

**Presidential and Members Workshop** - Alpha Alpha State will hold an incoming President workshop **Feb 28, 2014**, followed by an "any member" workshop, **March 1, 2014**, at the Radisson in Penn State. The fee for the workshop is \$35. A motion was made by Marcy Sharpe and seconded by Shirley Newhart for the president and any member to attend the workshop; Beta Theta would pay the \$35 fee. The motion passed.

**All State Project for Convention** - This year each chapter will decorate a wooden student chair. These chairs will be put on display at the convention. They will be used to raise money to meet the educational needs for children in the USA. Norma Mateer has volunteered to design our chair, and Nancy Thompson will donate the chair.

**Nomination Committee** - Nomination of new officers, slate as follows:

President - Norma Mateer

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Anna MacDonald

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Marcy Sharpe and Stephanie Davidson

Recording/Corresponding Secretary - Kathy Dunn

Treasurer - Nancy Thompson

Nominations Committee Members - Jeannette Thomas and Susan Bay

A motion was made and passed to accept the officers for 2014-2016.

**Basket Raffle** - Winners

Wine and Cheese Basket – Helen Daylor

Wine and Cheese Basket- Kathy Woodbridge

Baking utensils Basket – Gaye Hicks

Rose Picture and Money – Nancy Thompson

**Adjournment** - After the singing of the DKG song a motion was made by Louise Poorman and seconded by Sandra Estrada to adjourn the meeting at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathy R. Dunn*

**The Strategic Planning Committee will host the March meeting.**