



Alpha Bits

Alpha Gamma Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume No. 1

Issue No 2

Date 2-13-04 to 2-21-04

Upcoming Chapter Events

Friday, Feb. 13th

Phi Theta Kappa Chapter Meeting & Valentine Social



7:00 – 8:00PM @ Rio Grande Campus (RGC) Room #320. If the meeting attendance is too large we will be meeting in the Student Lounge.

At the meeting we will have a speaker from the American Heart Association and we will be collecting donations for Carl Carter's Muscular Dystrophy Event as well as for other Committees. There will be snacks, beverages, and fun Valentine decorations for our Social event.

For more information please contact Chapter President Arthur Vargas
arthur.vargas@ptk.org.

Sunday, Feb. 15th

Motorola Marathon

7:00AM – 10:00AM

Our Chapter will be partnering with "Project Transitions" to form a team for this event.

You can raise/donate money, come out and run or walk, volunteer, or all of the above.

For more information please contact Chair Amanda Neuman
amanda_neuman@hotmail.com or Co-chair Shiva Pejman Aryan
shinaz62@yahoo.com.

Monday, Feb. 16th

Rio Grande Bake Sale & Raffle

8:00AM – afternoon ?

Need: Food donations as well as supplies, monetary donations, and volunteers. Also need donations of items and gift certificates for the raffle.

For more information, please contact Rio Grande Vice Presidents Shiva Pejman Aryan
shinaz62@yahoo.com and Amanda Neuman
amanda_neuman@hotmail.com.

Tuesday, Feb. 17th

Rio Grande Bake Sale & Raffle

8:00AM – afternoon ?

For more information see the Feb. 16th Bake Sale info.

Thursday, Feb. 19th

Regional Science Fair Volunteer Orientation

5:00 – 6:00PM

Orientation to volunteer to be a Judge.

For more information, contact Chair Daniel Soza
daniel.soza@ci.austin.tx.us or Co-chair Florin Vasile
florinv@earthlink.net.

Friday, Feb. 20th

Phi Theta Kappa Chapter Meeting

6:00 – 7:00PM Officers

Meeting

7:00 – 8:00 General Meeting

Meeting will feature a speaker, Chapter news & updates, committee information, and more information on the upcoming Texas Regional Convention.

arthur.vargas@ptk.org

Upcoming Chapter Events Continued...

Saturday, Feb. 21st **Art Erotica: Silent Auction of Erotic Art to benefit AIDS Services of Austin**



Co-sponsored by the Octopus Club and Blue Genie Art Industries this is sure to be an exciting event! With donated Erotic Art from various artists, all proceeds from this Silent Auction/Party go to benefit the AIDS Emergency Assistance Fund (at AIDS Services of Austin).

We need volunteers both the day before and the day of the auction. If you do not want to be around the art you can volunteer the evening before.

Website:
www.octopusclub.org/art.html

For more information, contact Chair Amanda Neuman amanda_neuman@hotmail.com or Co-chair Christofer Tjan christofer88@hotmail.com.

Saturday, Feb. 21st **Tree Folks – Tree Planting**



9:00AM – 12:00PM (noon)
We will be planting trees at Guerrero Park/West Bouldin Park in Austin, Texas.

Special items to bring:
Sunscreen, water, and gardening gloves if you have them. Gloves are not always provided by the city, so it is best to be prepared.

Upon arrival: Sign in under ACC PTK or Alpha Gamma Pi and wait for further instructions from the project leaders.

Directions to Event:
Meet at Ricky Guerrero Park-- From South Lamar, go East on Mary Street, turn right on South 6th Street, park is on the right.

Websites:
www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/parkmaps/images/ricky_guerrero.jpg

<http://www.treefolks.org/>

For more information, please contact Chair Catherine Fefolt fefolt@mac.com or Co-chair Anna Burroughs aburroughs@austin.rr.com.

Ongoing Chapter Events

Women's Health Awareness

Meetings are 1st Tuesday of every month 9:00 – 10:00AM & 10:35 – 11:35AM and on the 1st Thursday of every month 1:20 – 2:20PM.

These are discussion events where you will have the opportunity to bring in articles or discuss current issues affecting women's health today.

Both men and women are invited to participate.

For more information, contact Chair Beth Cordova-Aulds cordovaaulds360@hotmail.com or Co-chair Shiva Pejman Aryan shinaz62@yahoo.com.

Donation Opportunities

We are always accepting donations of the following:

Diapers	Batteries
Books	School
Supplies	
Cat / Dog Food	Clothing
Sleeping Bags	Blankets
Money	Gift Certificates
Blank Audio Tapes	Coats
Old Newspapers	Pet Toys
Air Mattresses	Pillows
Text Books	Children's Books
Paper Towels	Toiletry Items
Canned Food	Pennies
Magazines	Pull Tabs
Pet carriers or pet beds	
Snacks & beverages for meetings	

News

Who's Who? You are!

As Phi theta Kappans, we pride ourselves on going above and beyond what is expected of us. As a Member/Prospective Member of our Chapter, you are not only taking the initiative to better yourself, but also receiving the recognition you have worked so hard for!

There are so many opportunities for you within Phi Theta Kappa – from volunteerism to Scholarships to Conferences and even the opportunity to serve as a Chapter, Regional, or International Officer. But did you know that there are other recognition opportunities out there?

Since 1966 Who's Who Among Students in American Community Colleges has furthered the aims of higher education by recognizing individual academic excellence on a national and local level. ACC joins over 1,400 institutions of higher learning across the country in the selection of outstanding students for this distinguished honor.

ACC Nomination Criteria
Students must:

- Be currently enrolled at ACC.
- Have completed a minimum of 30 semester credit hours at ACC by the beginning of the fall 2003 semester at ACC
- Not have been inducted before
- Have maintained a G.P.A. of 3.0 or better at ACC
- Have had concurrent enrollment and active leadership in community and/or college activities within the last three years
- Be in good character standing

If you meet the above eligibility requirements, talk to Mary Kohls kohls@austincc.edu and

she'll give you an application packet.

The deadline is Feb. 27th!

Texas Regional Convention

Our Chapter is currently preparing for the Texas Regional Convention in Houston, Texas March 11th – 14th for a weekend filled with educational speakers, events, and lots of fun – there's even a formal dinner and dance!

While our Chapter currently holds the Office of District V Vice President (Representing us is one of our Chapter Treasurers – Velvet Webb), we have decided to attempt a higher achievement on the Regional Level – to run for Regional President!

While at the Convention, we'll be campaigning like crazy, meeting new people, and even putting on a fun skit-, which we're in the process of planning.

All Chapter Members who attend the Convention MUST participate in the skit- but don't worry, it's lots of fun and laughs!

Members are encouraged to attend the Texas Regional Convention, and those who would like to help with the skit before the Convention or who would like to attend the Texas Regional Convention should contact Chapter President Arthur Vargas ASAP at: arthur.vargas@ptk.org.

Website: www.txptk.org

We are in the process of planning our car-pooling, so if you need a ride or can drive, please let us know ASAP!

International Convention

This years Phi Theta Kappa International Convention will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota – quite close to the amazingly large Mall of America.

This is the 86th Annual Convention, and the focus will be on the new upcoming Honors Study Topic: "Popular Culture: Shaping & reflecting Who We Are". And guess who will be there to introduce the new Honors Study Topic? Music industry legend Dick Clark!

In addition to focusing on all the fun of shopping, celebrities, and being several hundred miles from home, there will be great educational opportunities as well as the chance to make new friends.

If you're interested in attending the International Convention, contact Mary Kohls kohls@austincc.edu.

Website: www.ptk.org

News! Continued...

T-Shirt Design Contest

Our Chapter is looking for the next T-Shirt Design. The design MUST include either the words "Phi Theta Kappa" or the Greek Letters representing Phi Theta Kappa. Other than that, the creativity is up to you.

Please keep in mind that printing costs for multiple colors can get expensive, so try to keep everything no more than 1-2 colors (plus black and white).

If you get stuck, or want to run with some past ideas, remember the following:

- The Phi Theta Kappa colors are Navy and Gold.
- Our current T-shirt says:
Taking
Education and
eXcellence
Across the
State
Which spells out "**TEXAS**"
- The current Phi Theta Kappa campaign is "Good As Gold".
- The upcoming Honors Study Topic is "Pop Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are"
- Our International Service Project is "Conquering Cancer"

You do not have to tie in any of the above ideas, they are just helpful suggestions to inspire your creativity!

Don't forget to bring your designs and ideas to the next two meetings (2-13 & 2-20).

Who's going to be the next President?

Okay, we're not talking about the American President or those sorts of Politics, and no, we're not even talking about running for Chapter President (although, if you're thinking about it you should get to work- nominations begin soon!) – I'm talking about the Phi Theta Kappa INTERNATIONAL President!

One of our Chapter Members, Deanna M. Root, Public Relations Officer, is running for an International Office – Phi Theta Kappa International President.

Unlike the Regional Offices, which are Chapter-held, the International Officers are held by individuals. Deanna feels that she has a chance to win due to her extensive work in the entertainment industry, dedication to Phi Theta Kappa, and hardworking attitude.

She'll need lots of help for this Campaign and is in the process of building a Campaign Team. Campaign Team members work on a variety of tasks and perks include a FREE Campaign T-shirt and the opportunity to meet a ton of new people!

If you're interested in helping please e-mail her at:
deanna.root@ptk.org.

Excited About Eeyores



UT student Lloyd W. Birdwell, Jr. and some of his friends started this legendary spring celebration honoring Christopher Robin and Winnie the Pooh's friend Eeyore.

Although it has changed over the years, Eeyore's Birthday Party still retains much of its hippie flavor. Adults and children alike gather for Maypole dancing, costume contests, a hippie queen pageant, food, birthday cake, and live entertainment.

This is the largest fundraiser that our Chapter participates in. The money raised is used for Chapter scholarships, Registration for Conventions, and various other expenses.

Saturday, April 24, 2004
Pease Park
1100 Kingsbury
Austin Texas 78710
11:00 AM - Dark

Website:
<http://www.sexton.com/eeyores/>

For more information, contact Chair Velvet Webb velvet.webb@ptk.org or Co-chair Shiva Pejman Aryan shinaz62@yahoo.com.