

CAROLINA CRIER

Carolinas Welcome New Officers

The Carolinas Region wishes to extend a warm welcome to the 2008-2009 Regional Officers.

Regional President, Traci Trouton-Burr, is from the Alpha Zeta Sigma chapter at Greenville Technical College, Erica Spivey, North Carolina Vice President, is a member of the Alpha Chi Sigma

chapter from Cape Fear Community College, Christine Buzzell, South Carolina Vice President, is a member of Alpha Epsilon Omicron chapter at Trident Technical College, and Glorine Brabham, Regional Secretary, is a member of Alpha Epsilon Psi chapter at Denmark Technical College. The team is excited about working

together to bring fun, challenging and worth-while programming to the Carolinas this year. The goal is to make the Carolinas Region #1 in the world!!



Denmark Technical College's Alpha Epsilon Psi Chapter Induction Ceremony

Seventeen students were inducted into the Alpha Epsilon Psi Chapter Spring Induction on April 23, 2008, 10:00 a.m. at William McDuffie Student Services Center. The speaker was Mrs. Michelle McDowell, Executive Dean of Student Services. The theme was "The Paradox of Affluence:

Choices, Challenge, and Consequences".

After the Induction Ceremony, the Installation of Officers Ceremony was conducted by Dr. John Waddell, College President. The Chapter officers are Terrill Terry, President; Stacey Chis-

holm, Vice-President of Leadership; Samone White, Vice President of Scholarship, Cheneiqua Kelly, Vice President of Service; Ebony Ford, Vice President of Fellowship; Gladies Agbaso, Public Relations Secretary; and Gardell Patterson, Treasurer.



First row: Left to Right: John N. Bennett, Advisor; Alzena Robinson, Advisor; Mrs. Michelle McDowell, Executive Dean of Student Services, Speaker; Mrs. Carolyn McGay, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. John K. Waddell, President; Second Row: Left to Right: Samone White, Gladies Agbaso, Glorine J. Brabham, Carolinas Region Secretary; Threather Champion, Ebony Ford, Juanita Jamison, Cheneiqua Kelly, Gardell Patterson, Third Row: Left to Right: Princess Johnson, Terrill Terry, President; Stacey Chisholm, La'ruссия Flanningan, Kathy Williams, Beulah Creech, Britnie McDaniel, April Sanders, and Lucille Smalls.

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Trident Technical College Initiates Project Graduation



Project Graduation started for Trident Technical College on April 1, 2008 after an educational forum at International Convention in Philadelphia. First we decided our mission was going to be "feeding brains and bellies". We started collecting books, adult and children's, and non-perishables and canned goods from local vendors and community members then we sent a challenge out to other organizations within our school to try to beat our donations and the indi-

vidual with the highest donation would get a \$50 gift card to the Mall and the club or group with the highest donation would receive a pizza party hosted by Phi Theta Kappa. Carolyn Tebbetts a local in the community from Moncks Corner won the individual gift and none other than Phi Theta Kappa won the group award.

Overall we collected 1213 books and 201 canned good items. All of our donations went to the following charities; The Jenkins Or-

phanage, MUSC's Children's Hospital, Department of Social Services, My Sister's House, Crisis Ministries, Nichol's Residential Care, and Magnolia's Assisted Living. This project reached over 800 members in our community and hopefully in time many others. With the right **Choices** we can embrace any **Challenges** to conquer our **Consequences**.

Thank you Alpha Epsilon Omicron.



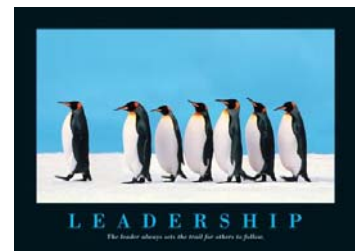
Leadership at Its Best

During the weekend of June 6-8, the Carolinas descended on Greenville, SC to participate in the annual Carolinas Region Leadership Conference. The conference was a fun-filled, action-packed weekend consisting of presentations by the Regional Officers in team-building skills, the importance of agendas and calendars, Hallmark Programming and writing tips, and a wonderful time of Fellowship with guest speaker Patrick Grady. "Is there a Tarzan in the house?" Many chapters had members and officers in attendance and a great time was had by all. Carolinas Region President, Traci Trouton-Burr had this to say, "Our goal as a team of officers this year was to provide all of our regional members a

chance to see how to develop and implement chapter programming that would integrate all of the hallmarks, thereby ensuring that we are all incorporating 'Honors in Action' projects. We also wanted to give each participant the opportunity to see first-hand what International Award-winning Hallmark Entries look like on paper. Our biggest goal was to ensure that each chapter be on the same page when the time came to write. We have a firm belief that the ultimate competition should be in each chapter's implementation of their projects, not in the structure of the entries, and I believe we accomplished that goal through the presentations and question-answer segment of the conference." This conference

displayed a great amount of teamwork throughout the region as many chapters took a role in Leadership by co-hosting, providing food, procuring donations of door prizes and goody bag fillers, manning the registration desk, and preparing presentations. Due to the hard work and dedication of many, this was a successful conference for all attendees. Way to go Carolinas Region!

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Carolina Crier

Alpha Chi Sigma—COURAGE & DETERMINATION



Between Alpha Chi Sigma's many rewarding years have been periods of slumber, stagnation, and general decline. It has always seemed to suffer this sort of fall from grace.

Our chapter has existed for many years at Cape Fear Community College. In the past, it has won numerous awards, given its students great opportunity, and sought to better the community in whatever way possible. The tragedy that would be, if it weren't presently overcome, is a lack of continuity.

Between Alpha Chi Sigma's many rewarding years have been periods of slumber, stagnation, and general decline. It has always seemed to suffer this sort of fall from grace. The ascension of 'sustainability' as the latest buzzword proves this tendency is characteristic not just of our small chapter, but of any type of organization: all face the hurdle of achieving a quality of permanence.

Another such period loomed over the chapter last year, threatening to halt its rhythmic accomplishment and check any hope of further progress. when, in August '07, a polite, well-mannered young lady named Erica Spivey perplexedly found herself occupying the position of newly-elected Chapter President. The chapter had dwindled down to only four active members, and the others -either also new, or frustrated and overwhelmed- haphazardly sought to swiftly fill the unoccupied role with anyone who may have shown the tiniest interest. But she was not unlike so many of us: possessing courage, and unafraid of similarly imposed burdens.

Polite Ms. Spivey politely agreed to be president.

The chapter had been given to a new advisor almost every preceding year, and that particular year was no different. Jason Earnhardt was made the new advisor in the spring, just after induction. With the fresh start of the fall semester, he and Erica set to the task of sorting, re-searching, and planning that would be needed for the chapter to survive. The hurdle was no doubt larger than they conceived.

There were almost no records to speak of. Whatever types of mishap had diminished the membership had also erased nearly all evidence of the chapter's past. The only records that remained were old plaques and trophies; awards lain dormant in the hallway of some building, encased as stalking monuments which silently pressed for a commitment to once again redeem the collected legacy of past members, lest it be ignored anymore.

Mr. Earnhardt, a true loyalist to good character, pressed too. With his encouragement, the small but determined group of students would begin to build. Erica had little more to work with than the Regional Officer Manual, but that year the chapter gathered additional members and now comprises an outstanding nine member officer team. They began programs aimed

at benefiting the college and surrounding community, including a large-scale recycling effort at CFCC and a Peer-Assist program to guide students with difficulty in adjusting to college: be it knowing which classes to take and how to manage their time, or where to live and how to get around. That year the trophy case got what it wanted, augmented to near full capacity. Heading into this year, the chapter still focuses on continuity, but is persisting with greater ease...and the looming threat of stagnation looms at a much safer distance.

Our world after college will be no less a threatening presence; political upheaval, economic distress, and disquieting uncertainty face us as a new, more-serious hurdle to overcome; but it *must* be overcome. So let our chapter be an analogy, and trust that we students today, across the nation, *have* the courage; we citizens of tomorrow will *find* the determination: be it our commitment to redeem a legacy of alliance with cherished ideals, or our aspiration to forge new achievements. Let us prove that, no matter how we have arrived at this role or the level of defeat to be undone, the hurdles will, without a doubt, one day be overcome.

-Clay Rains, member
Alpha Chi Sigma.

Alpha Nu Sigma Impacts The Environment

September has been a month of environmental community outreach for the members of Alpha Nu Sigma chapter. On September 19, we were proud to host a presentation of *The Return of the Cuyahoga*, a documentary detailing the massive environmental recovery effort to save Ohio's Cuyahoga River from industrial devastation. Eighteen people joined us from the HGTC community to learn about the groundbreaking environmental reclamation techniques employed to

reclaim an important part of Ohio's ecosystem. After the film, participants stayed to discuss the impact of pollution in our community and nation at large. Many participants were inspired by the film to take action here in our own Horry/Georgetown County community.

In that spirit, Alpha Nu Sigma chapter members set out for Myrtle Beach State Park on the morning of September 20 to participate in a statewide beach sweep. We are proud to report

that six Alpha Nu Sigma members gathered three large bags of garbage, and one large bag of recyclable materials. President Rhonda Ennis went to the trouble of counting over 750 cigarette butts among the debris. No one imagines one butt hurting anything, but they sure do add up quickly! After several hours of hard work, few had any complaints. After all, it's just another day at the beach for Alpha Nu Sigma.

By: Tanner Strutzenberg



Alpha Upsilon Eta—Heart of a Helpmate

In 2006, my younger sister was a victim of domestic violence. Her live in boyfriend beat her up and she barely escaped with her life. On this spring evening in their isolated rural home, she was badly beaten by fist and foot, choked, and thrown into walls while he yelled at her that he was going to kill her. He had also broken her cell phone which was her only means of communication. She had to wait until he was asleep and then quietly sneak her cats and a few belongings into her car and drive over an hour to get to my house. She arrived limping, badly bruised up, and in pain, but luckily with no broken bones. She had to be especially careful because he did have a knife and gun in the house. Statistically, 30-42% of murdered women are actually killed by their intimate male partner. After the police became involved, she was able to return and collect from the house her belongings that had not been destroyed by him. I was able to

provide housing, support and sanctuary for her, but many victims are not so lucky to have someone caring and supportive nearby to provide this for them. It is especially difficult to escape an abusive situation when you've nowhere to go and have no financial means to provide for yourself, and even harder when children are involved. In Asheville, NC there is fortunately a very important organization called Helpmate working to eliminate abuse and fear in the community by offering much needed shelter and other services to victims of domestic violence.

What does it mean to be a helpmate? This word dates back to 1696 and is defined as one who is a companion and helper. As a domestic violence agency, Helpmate offers a variety of programs to empower victims of domestic violence. They run a 24 hour hotline, offer individual crisis counseling, and provide

court advocacy as well as an emergency shelter for battered women and children. For 29 years, Helpmate has been Buncombe County's primary provider of crisis services to victims of domestic violence and their children.

The Alpha Upsilon Eta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at A-B Tech Community College in Asheville, NC will be hosting our third annual Helpmate Benefit Raffle & Talent Show Fundraiser in November and we would love for you to attend! Our chapter has the heart of a helpmate and we know you do too, so we wish to invite your participation in helping us to raise needed funds for this extremely worthy and meaningful cause. You can come and simply attend, but we are also accepting donations of goods and services for the raffle, and if you have a talent you would like to show off then we'd love to

have you in the show! This event is a load of fun with great entertainment. The audience judges who will win and the top three winners receive prizes. Last year we had musicians, acrobats, ballroom dancers, an impersonator and many other performers. As for the raffle you can look for beautiful and creative artwork, a visit with an acupuncturist, a signed book by a local author and much more. And of course, we know Phi Theta Kappans like to eat, so there will be delicious locally handmade pizza and other refreshments available! We would love to have your presence as a helpmate for Helpmate at this fun and fantastic event and we look forward to seeing you there.

By Grace Harrison

INVITATION TO THE 3rd ANNUAL HELPMATE BENEFIT RAFFLE & TALENT SHOW

WHO: Alpha Upsilon Eta

WHEN: 6:30PM, Thursday, November 13

WHERE: Ferguson Auditorium

Asheville Buncombe Technical Community College

Asheville, NC

You may contact me at graceharrison@students.abtech.edu or ptkofficers@abtech.edu for more information or to sign up to donate or participate. Hope you can make it!

<http://www.helpmateonline.org>

<http://www.abtech.edu>

Alpha Upsilon Eta—Relay for Life

Alpha Upsilon Eta, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, was honored to take part in the 2008 Relay for Life in Fletcher, NC on the A-B Tech team. We had set a goal of \$3000 and soared passed it to \$3608. We were one of the top ten teams of the event and won the silver award. With help from therapeutic massage students, we had chair massages at the event and raised \$188.

6:00 p.m. on July 18 until 7:00 a.m. on July 19. The fundraising was a success due to the hard work of Phi Theta Kappa members, advisors, massage students, and plant operations who assisted with setting up and breaking down our site.

We are grateful to do our part in the fight against cancer and have already begun to rally ourselves for the 2009 Relay for Life where we will strive to raise even more money.

A member of our team was on the track the entire night from

By Tennille McElrath



"The fundraising was a success due to the hard work of Phi Theta Kappa members, advisors, massage students, and plant operations who assisted with setting up and breaking down our site."

Alpha Epsilon Psi—Back to School Bash

Bamberg County Community Pride is a community-based organization whose purpose is to inform and provide resource information to all citizens of every age group in Bamberg County in the areas of health care, education, housing, financial, and safety information.

The entire Bamberg County benefited from the event. The event provided children with school supplies for Back-To-School, The general public received community resources information, program demonstrations, and entertainment for all children attending.

The organization sponsored a Back -to- School Bash, Health, Safety, and Community Information Day at the Bamberg Civic Center, North Main Street, Bamberg, South Carolina.

Alpha Epsilon Psi played a major role in organization and coordination of the event.

By Glorine Brabham



Agencies and organizations from all over the state of South Carolina were invited to join the celebration as an Exhibitors to share information. Exhibitors from local, state and community agencies, financial and educational institutions, churches, were well represented.



Carolinas Descend on San Francisco for the 41st Annual Phi Theta Kappa International Honors Institute

Numerous members from across the Carolinas Region took part in the International Honors Institute in beautiful San Francisco, California. The Institute was preceded by the International Leadership Conference where Regional Officers from all over the world participated in leadership skill-building workshops and took part in presentations by the International Officers and Headquarters staff.

The Honors Institute kicked off on Monday evening with dinner and the first general session. Attendees were privy to lectures

from expert presenters from all walks of life and fields of study. The topics during the week ranged from health care in our nation to the after effects of Hurricane Katrina. After each presentation, participants took part in group seminar sessions to discuss the speaker's topics and how to incorporate the issues into projects that chapter's could implement in their own colleges and communities.

Participants also had the opportunity to explore the city during Thursday's "Go San Francisco Day." Members enjoyed the trol-

ley rides through the city, visiting the numerous sites, shops and restaurants at the San Francisco Wharf, and many went on a boat tour of the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz. Melissa Enos, from Trident Technical College's Alpha Epsilon Omicron chapter stated, "The experience was exceedingly valuable for a better understanding of the Honors Study Topic and the seminar groups were enlightening and thoughtful and the friendships that were made with other Phi Theta Kappans were incredible and life-long."

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