



The Bustle

Editor: Jill Coble

Volume 53, Issue 4
August 2024

Beta Sigma Phi—Southwest Houston City Council President's Message

Happy August Sisters,

Wow, it's already August! July was a challenge, to say the least as we sustained the wrath of Hurricane Beryl. I hope everyone is recovering nicely and things are getting back to normal for you and your loved ones.

A big shout out to Jeanne Melton and her committee who delivered a wonderful Open Meeting on July 20th at the Another Time Soda Fountain in Rosenberg. A good time was had by all. We had a very nice turnout, and it was wonderful to catch up with everyone post-storm. We had three guests join us at the event. Well done all.

Looking ahead mark your calendar for the Fall Event on October 26th at the Junior League of Houston. Mary and her committee have been in planning mode for this upcoming event. Fall Event is a good way to welcome autumn and hopefully cooler temperatures. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

Council meetings resume in September, all members are welcome to join us at the Hilton Garden Inn in Sugar Land. We will be welcoming our newest chapter Xi Alpha Epsilon Omega. XAEO members include Jill Coble, Pam McDuffie, Renita Hudson, Cynde Renteria, Jeana Dorow, Beverly Crawford, and Chris Jones. Congratulations to the new chapter and to ADT as these chapters are poised to take on new members.

Enjoy what is left of your summer. I hope to see you in September for the council meeting. Thanks for your support of BSP.

I am thy sister,
Sandra

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This and That.....News from Council

Hostess Schedule 2024 -2025

September 12, 2024—Laureate Iota Tau
October 10, 2024—Preceptor Nu
November 14, 2024—Xi Alpha Zeta
December 12, 2024—Executive Board
January 9, 2025—Alpha Delta Theta
February 13, 2025—Laureate Iota Omega
March 13, 2025—Laureate Iota Tau
April 10, 2025—Xi Alpha Epsilon Omega
May 9, 2025—2025-2026 Executive Board

Editor Notes:

Make sure to check out the pictures starting on page 3 to see all the Open Meeting fun.

On page 7, you will find info on the BSP Friendship Cruise which is taking place starting on June 2, 2025. There are already 4 from SWHCC signed up to go on the cruise so you might check it out and consider joining in.

Chapter Reports begin on page 11. See what has been going on within SWHCC during the past month. Make sure you check out page 26 to learn about the new SWHCC Chapter.

Until next month.....

Jill

News from International

During the severe storms in Kansas City we will be shutting down and unplugging our servers at the International Office to safeguard our equipment when the weather requires it. Sorry for any inconvenience.

If you would like to make a Payment or place a Gift Order, please contact the International Office at 816-444-6800.

Starting June 1, 2024 Beta Sigma Phi International annual fees will now be \$55.00 US funds per year. Additionally, reinstatement fees will be \$57.00 US funds.

The fees for new member applications, Legacy, Envoy and Angel memberships remain unchanged.



The Right Place to Be Open Meeting

It was a "Blast to the Past" when Southwest Houston City Council Sisters met at Another Time Soda Fountain and Café on Saturday, July 20th for "The Right Place to Be" Open Meeting. Attendees dressed in their favorite decade attire and enjoyed hamburgers, fry's and a build your own ice cream sundae. Chair for the event was Jeanne Melton. It was great to have three guests in attendance that day. Thanks to Jeanne and her committee for the fun event!!!



Open Meeting Committee

Rita Mayo, Melinda Montgomery, Jeanne Melton (chair), Joan Ferguson, Ann Jones, Miriam Langford, Diane Rayle, Jeanne Murray, and Carol Trujillo



Open Meeting Guests







Bingo Prize Winners!!!



Details on the 2025 BSP Friendship Cruise. I know there are at least four SWHCC Sisters who have already signed up to go on the cruise so why not join in the fun!



7 Night Greek Isles & Turkey Cruise



Second time around and by popular demand, let's do it again. And I can offer you payment plans.

VOYAGER OF THE SEAS

Athens, Greece

Mykonos, Greece

Istanbul, Turkey

Ephesus (Kusadasi) Turkey

Santorini, Greece

Athens, Greece

June 2—9, 2025

\$726.50* Inside pp*

\$936.50 Oceanview pp*

\$1196.50 Balcony pp*

Taxes & fees \$170.18 pp

Leisure Travel w Fred & Ginger, Inc.
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www.Vleetravel.com

Ginger@vleetravel.com

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Virginia (Ginger) Lee



Beta Sigma Phi – The Right Place to Be!

Council Program 2024-20255

Chapters: Collectively drop a pin on your favorite place to be together.

Why was this place or experience chosen by your chapter? Tell us why this is so special. Did your chapter have a special outing here? This could be geographic location, a memorable experience at the theatre, museum, etc., an unforgettable chapter meeting or an experience you are all still talking about years later.

Get creative and get your chapter involved. Use visual aids, use costumes, dress up, act, sing—have fun.



SWHCC Fall Luncheon
Fall in Love with Beta Sigma Phi



You are invited to -
The Junior League of Houston
October 26, 2024 11:00 am

More details to come!

BSP...the right place to be

Save the Date

Founder's Day 2025

April 26, 2025



More Details to come!!

ALPHA DELTA THETA

REPORTER: KAREN SWEET-ANGEL

JULY MEETING

Sister Barbara Meurer graciously hosted our July chapter meeting in her home. Before the meeting we were invited to join in an array of culinary delights that included; beef and ham and cheese sliders, potato salad, broccoli/lettuce salad, cut up peppers, carrots and tomatoes, red pepper and garlic hummus, a cheeseball with crackers and ritz crackers with dark chocolate. Everyone enjoyed while we caught up with each other.



The meeting came to order and general business was covered. It was noted open meeting was on August 20th and the Pres/VP Chair Luncheon will be on August 24th. Officer and committee reports were given. It was noted, unfortunately, that the end of year celebration had to be cancelled because of an uninvited, unruly Texas guest named Beryl. The July meeting was also the reveal of our secret sisters. Throughout our entire sorority year the anticipation had been growing and finally we discovered who they were.



ALPHA DELTA THETA....PAGE 2

Keeping with our theme of flowers/flowering plants, Barbara enlightened us about lavender trees. Lavender trees, with their soothing fragrance and delicate blossoms, are a delightful addition to any garden or landscape.

People usually associate lavender with two specific traits: its fragrance and its color. However, the flower and the oil derived from it have long histories in herbal medicine. Earliest recorded use of lavender dates back to ancient Egypt where the oil played a role in mummification. During later times, lavender became a bath additive in ancient Persia, Greece and Rome and was believed to help purify the body and mind.

Lavender is a member of the mint family and there are three types: English, French and Spanish, with English being the most popular. Commercially, the plant is grown mainly for the production of lavender essential oil and is believed to help with insomnia, anxiety, hair loss, headaches, acne, burns, eczema, dry skin, wound healing and mood issues. Lavender is also used in jams, teas, baked goods, and more.



Lavender Pecan Crisps

From Chappel Hill Lavender Farm

Ingredients:

2 cups Flour	1 teaspoon Baking soda
4 sticks softened butter	6 teaspoons ground lavender
3 Cups flour	4 cups corn flakes
2 teaspoons cream of tarter	1 cup chopped pecans, toasted
$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt	

Directions:

Preheat Oven to 350 degrees

Cream sugar and butter, Mix in dry ingredients, then fold in corn flakes and pecans.

Spoon onto cookie sheet and bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes.



ALPHA DELTA THETA...PAGE 3

During the July meeting we also installed our new officers for the 2024-2025 sorority year. It was a passing of the torch from this year unto next year.



President	Karen Sweet-Angel
V. President	Barbara Meurer
Treasurer	Carol Trujillo
Corr. Sec.	Diane Leive
Rec. Sec.	Cathy Wilson (not pictured)



ALPHA DELTA THETA...PAGE 4

On July 20, ADT sister were at "The Right Place and Time To Be" attending the Open meeting. Attendees were encouraged to dress in clothes from their favorite decades and we didn't disappoint. From the 1920s to the 50s and 70s, we were representing, including Diane's guest Brenda Kleidon. Carol even won at Bingo.



ON A PERSONAL NOTE



Cynthia Rogan and family enjoying the Fourth of July on Lake Conroe



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA

REPORTER: BOBBIE VILES

News from Joan Batts—

Joan was happy when her niece from California came to visit in April. She had so much fun visiting Joan, that she came back in May and then June. Joan hadn't seen her in 4 years.



It was a celebration when friends gathered to celebrate Mary Crochet's 80th birthday. In the picture is Anne Marie (Joan's daughter), Joan, Mary and another Joan (Joan B's teaching partner and a student of Mary's. How special was that to have one of Mary's student's in attendance. Happy Birthday to Mary and many more!!!!



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA....PAGE 2

Joan recently spent time in Minnesota at her happy place.....Union Lake, Minnesota. This is where her family spent the summers when she was growing up. Joan's kids also joined her. Some of the highlights were: catching up with her best friend Pam who lives year round on the lake and was Joan's best friend from elementary and high school; catching a glimpse of an Eagle in the tree by the flag which is the first time she had seen one on this side of the lake; and seeing Anne Marie with the tree that she planted 30 years ago at the lake.



LAUREATE IOTA OMEGA....PAGE 3

Joan was flying home on Delta and got caught in the flight issues they were having. While her luggage came on to Houston, she remained in Minneapolis for several days before she was able to get a flight home. Joan called the cousin where she had been staying to come pick her back up. But what a good thing as her brother Scott and friend Muling flew into Minneapolis so she was able to spend time with them to see some sights which included Minnesota State Capital, Saint Paul's Cathedral and Holman's restaurant that use to be the Saint Paul Airport. On the top of the Minnesota Capital, there is 5 pounds of gold leaf that covers the horse and chariot. It was just 63 steps, then another 63 steps and finally 63 more steps to the top but she made it!!! Joan also got to see her 98 year old Aunt Audrey.



LAUREATE IOTA TAU

REPORTER: LINDA DASPIT

No report this month.

PRECEPTOR NU

REPORTER: SHAWN DORN AND CAROLYN MEEKS

Amongst the crowds of onlooking, happy revelers, the throngs of the booty shaking and melodious sounds being propelled through the air by the live band, "Vegas Stars", and under the explosive, colorful, display of the fireworks being jettisoned above, Carolyn Meeks and Shawn Dorn enjoyed their Independence Day celebration this year at the Amphitheater in Sienna, Missouri City, TX.



Everyone who knows Carolyn Meeks knows she has some very peculiar dilemmas when it comes to food, But, never if it's Mexican or if it's soup, as long as it's fresh! If it's Chili's, all the better! She's never been happier! (Well, not "today" anyway.)



PRECEPTOR NU...PAGE 2

Our third Chapter Meeting of this Sorority year began with a rousing tribute to our great, God-given nation. Although not exactly on the 4th, truth be known, one would be hard pressed not to think it was by the festive patriotic attire and the genuine joy expressed through our smiles, laughter and love being shared amongst us all. Our hostess was the ever flamboyant, Mickie Wright, who magnificently orchestrated this public-spirited, themed meeting held at our official chapter meeting location, with certain exceptions, The Hilton Garden Inn.



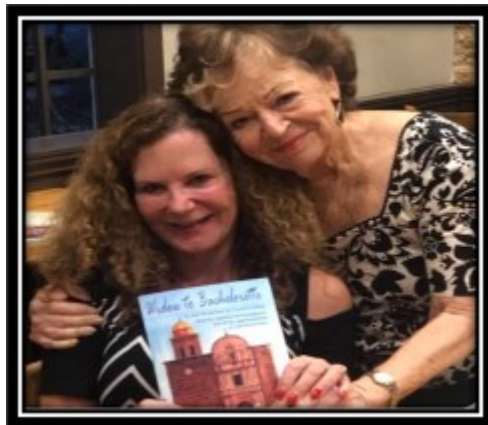
Roy, her darling husband, sacrificed his "birthday" to be present, in help and support of his lady love. Oh, he charms us all professing he loves being with us as much as we do him, and maybe so! But, on his birthday, really?

Just look at that face!

How can you not **love** this man?

PRECEPTOR NU...PAGE 3

Cyndi Nielsen, Author of the book, "*Widow to Bachelorette*" was our Special Guest and Program for the evening. We all found her to be playful & cute, thoughtful, beautiful, intelligent and quite talented. At the promise that she inserted some rather personal details within the covers of her book, we all had to get one and have her autograph it. Many of us purchased more than one to give as a gift to a close friend or family member.



And Shawn Dorn won the prize for best Patriotic attire.



PRECEPTOR NU...PAGE 4



Open Meeting took us all back in time to some varied decades of (not-so) long ago. PN had a wonderful time and Mickie Wright's guest, Sugarland's District 4, Councilwoman, Carol McCutcheon, appeared to enjoy it all as well.



AUGUST 1st is CAROLYN MEEKS' 77th BIRTHDAY



A number of good friends & family got together Saturday, July 27th to **surprise Carolyn Meeks** with a birthday celebration luncheon at Sugar Land's State Fare Kitchen.



PRECEPTOR NU...PAGE 5





XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA

REPORTER: JILL COBLE

Greetings from Xi Alpha Epsilon Omega!!! We are happy to be the newest Chapter in Southwest Houston City Council and excited to help make Council membership grow. We are looking forward to being a part of SWHCC and working on various council committees.

We are starting the Chapter with seven members. Members are: Pam McDuffie, Renita Hudson, Cynde Renteria, Jeana Dorow, Beverly Crawford, Chris Jones, and Jill Coble. Jeana and Beverly are new members to Beta Sigma Phi. And most of you will probably remember Chris. She was a member of a former chapter in SWHCC and we are happy to have her join us.

The Chapter has hit the ground running by electing Chapter Officers and planning our "BSP....The Right Place to Be" Chapter year. Our officers for the year will be:

President—Jill Coble

Vice President—Cynde Renteria

Recording Secretary—Pam McDuffie

Corresponding Secretary—Beverly Crawford

Treasurer—Renita Hudson

Five XAEO members attended "The Right Place to Be" Open Meeting on Saturday, July 20th. This was our first council event as a Chapter. Thanks to Jeanne and her committee for all they did to make it a fun day. We are looking forward to the upcoming council events.



XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 2



Girls!
JUST WANNA
Have
FUN



Jeana was a lucky winner of a Consuela tote at the Open Meeting. How beautiful it was with red and yellow roses. XAEO Sisters thought maybe we should take turns using it. OK, we will let Jeana have it!



XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 3

Happy Birthday wishes to two of our XAEO Sisters who celebrated birthday's during the month of July. Jeana's birthday was on July 13th and Renita's birthday was July 18th.

A word from our Members:

Jill enjoyed an American Cruise Line cruise in June/July. Points of interest included Providence, Rhode Island, New Bedford, Massachusetts, Martha's Vineyard, MA, Nantucket Island, MA, Block Island, RI, Newport, RI, and Bristol, RI. A signature moment in Newport was the traditional lobster bake luncheon—an enduring celebration of coastal cuisine. It was lobster, clams, and corn, all cooked over coals with seaweed harvested at dawn. Since this was on July 4th, we were treated to fireworks which were shot off right beside where our cruise ship was docked.



Jeana and husband Chris ended the month of July by spending a week in the Dominican Republic. There isn't anything better than fun and relaxation!!



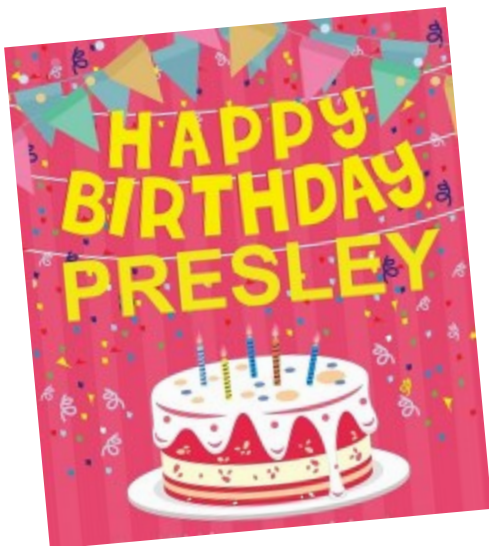
XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 4



And how very fitting is this picture of Jeana in the Domenica Republic to go along with this year's BSP theme.



Beverly and Kent celebrated granddaughter Presley's fifth birthday. All the "grand" kiddos had a blast joining in for the birthday celebration.



Chris had some good news to report and also some bad news. First, daughter Stephanie and youngest granddaughter Fianna just returned from a trip to Italy in conjunction with her high school culinary class. They even had the opportunity to participate in a cooking class. Now for the bad news.....Chris and Wil's car was broken into while at LA Fitness on Highway 6. Her purse with everything in it and Wil's wallet with cards, driver's license, etc were all taken. What a big mess! You can't even go exercise anymore.

XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 5

Renita and daughter Taylor had an evening out at Hobby Center to see "The Lion King". Hakuna Matata....There are no worries for the rest of your days!!!
♪I Just Can't Wait to be "Queen" ♪



It was a Saturday date night for Mark and Pam as they listened and danced to "In Time" Band at Central Green in LaCenterra. Cynde and Danny joined them for dinner and then the group met up with more friends who were there enjoying the music.



XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 6

Cynde and Danny enjoyed dinner at Pappa's Steakhouse as they celebrated their 51st Wedding Anniversary. Look at those two on the right....they must have been young teenagers when they got married. Congratulations and XAEO Sisters wish Cynde and Danny many more happy years of marriage.



It's always nice when friends can meet up for lunch. Cynde, Renita, Pam and Jill recently met for lunch at The Annie Café & Bar. A delicious lunch, lots of conversation, a glass or two of wine, and time spent with friends.....the day couldn't have been better.



That's it for Xi Alpha Epsilon Omega this month!

XI ALPHA ZETA

REPORTER: GIGI KENNEL

XAZ did not meet in July we still managed to have some fun!

Miriam and Joan went to Vince King's Music Fest in Pearland in June. Miriam won the tickets at his 20th year celebration. Once they were checked in, they were bumped up to the Diamond table. The music was wonderful, and we had a great time.



XAZ also made sure to represent at the SWHCC Open Meeting!



XI ALPHA EPSILON OMEGA...PAGE 2



A celebration of the decades - with the 3 F's Food - Fun - Fellowship. Kudos to our sweet sisters who threw a frolicking good time!

MEMBER AT LARGE

REPORTER: JOYCE FRANK

Members at Large, Joyce C., Winona L, Joyce F, Judy S. and Carole S. Enjoy lunch together each and every month. July found them at the King Ranch Kitchen, and June at Olive Gardens. It is always fun to catch up with everyone and find out what's new with all.



Winona and Jill enjoyed an evening out on Saturday, July 27. They started with dinner at Union Kitchen and then went to The Music Box Theater to see the "Feelin Groovy" music show. It was a celebration of the music of the 60s & 70s! It's always a blast when Music Box Theater covers the past. Feelin Groovy included songs by ... The Rolling Stones, The Mamas and the Papas, The Beatles, Peter, Paul & Mary, Led Zeppelin, Simon & Garfunkel and more! If you haven't ever been to The Music Box Theater, you should check it out. Great Entertainers!!



*Beta Sigma Phi
Southwest Houston
City Council*

**For more info
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Sandra Simpson
Email:
sandraksimpson@comcast.net**

www.betasigmaphiswhcc.org

**Motto:
Life, Learning,
Friendship**

BΣΦ



2024—2025 Executive Board

Sandra Simpson —President

Jeanne Melton—President-Elect

Mary Crochet —Vice President

Barbara Meurer—Recording Secretary

Joan Balts —Corresponding Secretary

Sherry Sweet —Treasurer

Jill Coble—Parliamentarian

Chapter Presidents

ADT—Karen Sweet-Angel

LIO—Mary Crochet

LIT—Frances Speer

PN—Linda Nolty

XAEO—Jill Coble

XAZ—Jeanne Melton



Council Advisor

Winona LaBrant