



Sigma Theta Tau Newsletter

ETA KAPPA
CHAPTER - AT -
LARGE

Fall 2009 Issue

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Sigma Theta Tau Members,

Fall has arrived, school is back in session, and it's time to mark your calendar for upcoming Sigma Theta Tau activities! The calendar on page two gives an overview of all scheduled activities for the year. We will be publishing only one newsletter this year so please keep this information handy and don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

I was so happy to see many individuals at our recent 25th Anniversary celebration. We were honored to have past STTI president, Dr. Daniel Pesut join us for our celebration. Thank you to all who attended.

I am looking forward to our fall business meeting, social, and service project! President-Elect Lori Edwards is coordinating the social and service project. The service project will benefit those in need at the Topeka Rescue Mission. Please see page 3 of this newsletter for more details.

We are very excited about the Research Forum that is scheduled for March 9, 2010. The Vice Presidents and Research Committee are planning the event and more details will be sent to members as the time approaches but please go ahead and mark your calendars!

Now that Sigma Theta Tau is on your calendar, I hope to see you at upcoming events. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 785-295-8371 or e-mail to jenny.eisenbarth@sftks.net

Sincerely,

Jenny Eisenbarth, RN, MSN
President, Eta Kappa Chapter-at-large

Thank you!

A special thank you to past chapter presidents: Cindy Hornberger, Jane Carpenter, Paula Ellis, Beth Williams, Clede Meyer, and Shirley Dinkel for their work to plan the 25th Anniversary celebration.

Washburn University School of Nursing and Baker University School of Nursing each donated funds to assist with the 25th Anniversary celebration. Their donations were greatly appreciated!

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Eta Kappa Chapter-at-Large Board of Directors

President: Jenny Eisenbarth

President-Elect: Lori Edwards

Secretary: Beth Williams

Treasurer: Heather Kimber

Vice-Presidents:

Baker Univ. (Sr.): Bobbe Mansfield

Washburn Univ. (Jr.): Finette Gress

Counselors:

Baker Univ. (Sr.): Carol Trahan

Baker Univ. (Jr.): Sue Larson

Washburn Univ. (Sr.): Marian Jamison

Washburn Univ. (Jr.): Sue Unruh



Eta Kappa Chapter-at-Large 2009-2010 Meeting and Activity Schedule

Date	Time	Type of Meeting/Activity	Location
October 20, 2009	5pm 5:30pm 6-8pm	Board meeting Business meeting Social & Service Project	St. Francis Health Center Meeting Room #1
December 1, 2009	6pm	Fall Member Induction	Baker University School of Nursing
December 18, 2009	2-9pm	Gift Wrapping fundraiser (see notes above)	Barnes and Noble (6130 SW 17th St)
January 12, 2010	5pm	Board meeting	Washburn University School of Nursing
March 9, 2010	Additional information will be mailed to members this Spring	Board Meeting Business Meeting Awards Ceremony	Topeka Shawnee County Public Library (1515 SW 10th Ave)
April 27, 2010	6pm	Spring Member Induction	Washburn University



Member Spotlight

By Paula Ellis, Editor

Lisa Alexander joined the local and international chapters of STTI as a community member. She has been a solid supporter of our local chapter, receiving the Excellence in Nursing Education Award in 2008.

Lisa completed her Masters in Nursing Education in July, 2008. Her thesis focused on nurses' self-concept and the impact on collaboration with medical staff. This emphasis on the professional relationship has been a hallmark of Lisa's nursing career. Most recently, Lisa's efforts have been focused on the Kansas Nurse Preceptor Academy, a product of the Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation. Realizing dedicated and competent nurse preceptors are vital to the development and retention of the individual nurse and the success of health care organizations, Lisa serves as Co-Chair for the Kansas Nursing Attrition and Clinical Collaborative Nurse Preceptor Task Force. This group planned the pilot offerings of the Academy which began in the Spring, 2009. She is one of four Kansas Nurse Preceptor Academy instructors in the state. Lisa is also a member of the KONL committee Kansas Committee for Nursing Education and Practice (KNEP).

Lisa received her bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas School of Nursing and has worked as a staff nurse in medical-surgical and maternal-child nursing. For the past eight years, Lisa has worked as a hospital educator coordinating and providing orientation, preceptor courses, staff development, and continuing education activities for nursing staff on medical, post-surgical, and rehabilitation units. Lisa's hallmark is flexibility including juggling her schedule to fit the needs of those she serves, changing her style to meet the needs of those she teaches, or altering her schedule to meet an unexpected need on a unit for which she is responsible.

A strong proponent of nursing, Lisa wishes to see every employee function at their highest level. She supports and encourages fellow staff at all levels, exemplifying the high ideals of the nursing profession and of STTI.

Thank you, Lisa for all you do for nurses, other health care professionals, and STTI.

Chapter Community Service Project

Our October 20th service project will benefit the Topeka Rescue Mission. Please consider bringing an item or two from the list below to assist individuals at the Rescue Mission as they prepare for the winter season.

Women's socks

Baby items: powder, shampoo, etc.

Women's briefs (sizes 6, 7, 8)

Hand sanitizer

Men's boxers (all sizes)

Tampons

Shampoo & Conditioner

Air freshener spray

Toothpaste (large tubes)

Foot powder

Hair brushes

Soap

Dish soap

Can openers (non-electric)



Join Us for our **Holiday Gift Wrapping Fundraiser!**

This holiday season, Sigma Theta Tau members have the opportunity to raise funds for the Eta Kappa Chapter-at-Large scholarship fund by wrapping gifts at Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Topeka. We will be wrapping gifts on **Friday, December 18th** from 2-9 pm. Members are encouraged to sign up for one or two hour blocks of time to wrap gifts and/or check blood pressures.

Patricia Miller has graciously agreed to coordinate the event for us again this year. Please contact her at (785) 215-5460 or patriciamiller_73@yahoo.com to sign up for a time to wrap presents or if you have any questions. We had a great time with this fundraiser last year and the funds raised this year will help us assure that we can continue to provide scholarships.