

December, 2012

Dear Montana Alpha Chi Omega,

I hope you are having a wonderful holiday season! It hardly seems possible that 2012 is almost over.

This was a good year for Nu Sigma Nu. We had 20 members and lots of enthusiasm.

This summer we decided to try something new! I divided our chapter into four areas, and three women volunteered to be social chairmen for these areas: Flathead – Susie Park, Bozeman – Karin Utzinger, Helena – Leslee Haylett, and Billings. What I'm after here is for you to be able to get together more frequently than you would if it were left to me to organize an event in your area. I am hoping that this strategy will result in more Alpha Chi Omega activities statewide, greater interest, better retention of our members, and more new members. I want you to get more bang for your buck! I'm not asking any of the social chairmen to organize any large events, just simple get-togethers (such as luncheons) at your convenience, such as to celebrate Hera Day and Founder's Day. The only thing I want for Christmas is a social chairman for Billings. Please make my day! It's not that hard, and it will be a whole lot of fun for you and everyone in your area!

I'm happy to report that we had get-togethers in each of the four areas this year. There was a luncheon in Billings on Sept. 4 that was attended by four women. I got together with Karin Utzinger for lunch in Bozeman on August 17. We had an elaborate Glacier National Park Reunion Aug. 7 – 11 which drew 7 members, plus spouses and friends. The Flathead area also had a social on April 12. The Helena group had a Founder's Day lunch. Keep up the great work, ladies!

In addition to my responsibilities with Nu Sigma Nu, I am also the Province Alumnae Chairman for Tennessee and Kentucky. As a PAC, I was required to attend our National Convention in St. Louis July 12-17. It was an intense several days of meetings. We literally worked from 7:30 a.m. thru 10:00 p.m. and beyond each day. When I came home I was exhausted! But it was really fun to make new friends and be reunited with old friends. It's really well done; if you ever get a chance to go, you should go.

On a personal note, I really appreciate all the love and support you sent my way when my 83-year-old mother-in-law died in an accident on August 29. We are all doing well but it was still a shock. Physically, my back is much better since I had a procedure done in Sept. to control the pain I was experiencing from osteo-arthritis. I had arthroscopic surgery on my knee on Dec. 14 and am hobbling around right now, but I'm determined to be skiing in 2 weeks!

Please remember with cards and prayers Susie and Jerry Park (Jerry is fighting prostate cancer and kidney infections), and Tom Burroughs, who lost his wife and our member, Phyllis, on Nov. 21. We need to help make their holidays as happy as possible.

Thank you for being the wonderful Alpha Chi Omega that you are. You are a blessing to our chapter and we are lucky to have you! Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Happy Holidays! Please keep in touch and let me know what's going on in your life and how I can help you.

Loyally,

Jane Bonnell Short