

August 16, 2011

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Message from Jane B. Short

Wow! This summer has just flown by! I guess that means I'm having a lot of fun! I hope you are, too.

Thanks so much to Eddie Currier Bennett, Bonnie Smith Rigg, Sara Lauer Sheldon, and their significant others for meeting Brock and me for breakfast at the Missoula Cracker Barrel on July 9. We had so much fun together talking about where we have lived, and about Alpha Chi Omega etiquette we experienced that now seem defunct. Thank you all for making us feel so welcome in Missoula! Three photos of the event are on the next page.

Brock and I really enjoyed running in the Missoula Half Marathon (13.1 miles) on July 10. When we started, at 6:00 a.m., it was 48 degrees. As we ran, we watched the sun rise. When we finished, at 8:15 a.m., it was 61 degrees. What perfect, incredible weather! We also appreciated that the course was mostly flat. I finished in 2 hrs. and 13 minutes, and Brock finished with a personal best, 40 seconds behind me. Our finishing photo is to the left, and a photo of me after the finish is on the next page.

Before we arrived in Missoula, we rode our bicycles on the "Trail of the Hiawatha" near Lookout Pass, on the border of Idaho and Montana. The ride begins through an old railroad tunnel nearly 2 miles long and pitch black inside! We found out really quick that you need a strong headlamp to feel comfortable on this ride. It was really unique and incredibly scenic.

We had family visiting for 2 weeks in August. We've been busy hiking, golfing, and sailing – we're organizing a 1st annual regatta on Hebgen Lake for August 20. Brock bought a new scooter, which is more like a motorcycle, so we've been trying to get used to riding it. I'm getting some personal training at the gym, which is keeping me sore.

We leave Montana on Sept. 7. We'll spend a few days visiting my folks in Jupiter, Florida, we will attend the Tennessee Titans' first game of the season in Jacksonville on Sept. 11 (I will be wearing my Marc Mariani jersey for the occasion), then we will be back in Nashville on Sept. 12.

Thank you so much to Helen Hales Elliott for participating in our Alpha Chindness project. Helen sent a monetary donation to me, and I used the money to send Target gift certificates to Anne Freeman Ball and Phyllis Seeley Burroughs on Helen's behalf. (I would be glad to help in this way for anyone else who is interested.) I encourage the rest of you to please participate in Alpha Chindness in any small way, if you haven't already.

You all are so special, really. Thank you for making MY year!



Photo 1, L-R: Eddie Bennett, Sara Sheldon, Jane Short and Bonnie Rigg.

Photo 2, L-R: Roger Wells, Eddie Bennett, Sara Sheldon, Jane Short, Brock Short, Bonnie Rigg, Matt Rigg



Photo 3, top: Roger Wells, Brock Short, Matt Rigg. Below: Eddie Bennett, Jane Short, Bonnie Rigg, Sara Sheldon

Photo 4, Jane Short, all cleaned up, at the Missoula Marathon finish line



Photo 5, Max Ball

Photo 6, Helen Hales Elliott with her toy poodle, "Monty"

Member News

Anne Freeman Ball writes on June 16: "Dear Alpha Chi Omega sisters, I am so honored that you have chosen us for the Alpha Chindness project. Max is a joyful, thoughtful little guy who has recently started scooting - backwards, that is, but still on the road to mobility. The Target gift card will be very much appreciated as we baby-proof the house. Gating the stairs is a top priority! Max enjoyed swimming while in Ohio and we are hoping the MT weather improves so we can head to the pool locally. Thanks again." In August, Anne wrote: "I received a very nice card with a Target gift card today from Helen Hales Elliott. It was much appreciated and I have sent her a Thank You note." Note: Max weighed in at 18 pounds on his 6 month visit and is also sitting up. See a photo of Max on page 2.

I received a call from **Scott Swan**, who is the fulltime caretaker of his mother, **Jane Ann Maguire Swan**, who was our Alpha Chindness "Make Her Year" recipient last year. Scott says Ann was treated for colon cancer this spring and is making a slow but steady recovery. She turned 92, not 93, on June 12. He said she has enjoyed everything we sent her and really appreciates all the attention we have given her. Best wishes to Ann for a speedy recovery!

I received a phone call and letter from **Helen Hales Elliott**, who turned 83 on April 23. Helen writes: "I was very happy to see Rosemarie Iverson is an Alpha Chi sister. We are going to celebrate one day soon over lunch. I have known her for over 50 years. She originally sang in my church choir until she met a fine Lutheran and got married. We also played in a trio for a while. Rosemarie played violin, I played piano, and my minister played the cello. It was fun!" What a small world. Helen had a tooth pulled this spring, but it has morphed into a painful neuropathy in her mouth. She is trying to carry on but is having difficulty with the pain. Please remember her in your prayers and thoughts. Helen is pictured on page 2.

Our Province Alumnae Chairman, **Rebecca Cleland-Olson**, featured our chapter in her NW Province Newsletter. Thank you, Rebecca!

Leslee Purdy Haylett reported that her husband, Dale, recently had total knee surgery. We hope he is having a successful recovery.

Allison Tregger Hofman writes: "My husband was promoted to Captain in the Air Force on May 31. I am so proud of the work that he does as a missilier in the 490th Missile Squadron here at Malmstrom Air Force Base. We were able to have lots of family come and visit and even though it was cold and rainy we had a wonderful picnic celebration." Congratulations, **Griff!** Allison also wrote to let us know about the Montana State Fair in Great Falls July 29-August 6.

Congratulations to **Sara Lauer Sheldon** on their newest grandchild, born in late June in Belgrade. The Missoula Marathon runners come within a few miles of her home; she lives off Mullan Rd., about 3 miles west of Reserve St. They moved there 14 years ago after Gary retired from teaching in Colorado. She writes: "Thanks for all you do to keep our chapter connected and extending the Alpha Chi sisterhood around the state!!"

Birthdays!

Norma "Pat" Patrick Warfield	August 13
Bonnie Smith Rigg	August 26
Barbara Dontigny Shook	August 27
Sara Lauer Sheldon	September 16
Karen Rogers Raphael-Conley	September 16
Dorothy Larson Bell	October 1

Events

Labor Day	September 5
First Day of Autumn	September 23
Domestic Violence Awareness Month	October
Founder's Day	October 15

AUGUST 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	