

Leading with Wisdom & Passion
2008 CONVENTION REPORT
by *Diana Sawin*



There were close to 100 Chi State members who attended the **International Convention in Chicago**. Our Area III was represented by Heidi Chadwick, Jody Howland, Lois Sherwood and myself. It was a fantastic event with almost 1800 women representing their state or country. The convention was filled with beautiful ceremonies, inspiring speakers, great workshops, informative general meetings, delicious food, and wonderful music. Best of all was making new friends and exchanging and sharing ideas of Chapter and community projects. Our Illinois sisters put together an awesome convention and made each one of us feel special. Kudos for a job well done!



The Windy City Jazz Newsletter welcomed us to Chicago with the theme Be Informed, Enlightened, Entertained and Feel Renewed. The Lambda State sisters invited members and guests to explore Chicago sights with the guidance of a Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) mentor. With one mentor to a group of six we had seven tour choices to sign up for at a cost of \$4 roundtrip – what a deal. Tours were available in two sessions daily allowing members to fit this into their schedule between general business sessions, meetings, forums, workshops, regional breakfasts, vendors and art exhibits. Workshop Strands were divided into the following: Professional Development; The Arts, Cultural Enrichment and Lifelong Learning; and Delta Kappa Gamma at Work. As you can imagine it was difficult to make only four workshop choices over two days. Fortunately, a CD was made available for a cost of only \$15 of ALL WORKSHOP HANDOUTS. Yeah! There are several handouts that I know Kit and her board will want to see.



Attending our International Convention truly gives us the big picture of who we are as Delta Kappa Gamma members. We are more than our Chapters, more than our Area, and more than our State. Over 115,000 women are involved in programs and projects throughout the world promoting personal and professional growth and excellence in education. Our conventions continue to showcase the best of the best. The next **International Convention will be held in Spokane, Washington in July of 2010**. Circle this date on your calendar now, and plan to go with a fellow Chapter member. You won't be disappointed.



Chi State Biennium Theme

Dues Increase



As all of you know by now, the dues each member will be paying to International will be increasing by \$20 for a total of \$40. This change is effective immediately, i.e. the 2008-2009 year. There were amendments offered at the convention to only increase the dues by \$10. This was defeated. Another amendment was offered to do the increase in increments until 2010. This was also defeated. The discussion about this motion was lengthy and several extensions were approved by the assembled body. Finally the assembly called for the question and discussion was ended. The vote was taken by having those members present stand and be counted. So it was not done by voice or a show of hands. Everyone present in the hall was counted individually by the Floor Pages.

Please remember the benefits of belonging to Delta Kappa Gamma:

- ❖ Membership in the largest organization of women educators.
- ❖ Meeting and networking with key women educators from across the country and throughout the world.
- ❖ Participating in projects which promote peace and well-being for women and children throughout the world.
- ❖ Developing leadership skills.
- ❖ Mentoring new teachers
- ❖ Addressing educational issues through the legislative process.
- ❖ Attending conferences and conventions to grow personally and professionally.
- ❖ Knowing and associating with outstanding people in all levels in the field of education.
- ❖ Developing a circle of friends wherever you are!!

2008-2009

I am very excited about starting the second half of my biennium as our Area III Director with a wonderful group of new and returning Chapter Presidents. I love visiting the 13 Chapters in area and I plan to invite some of our Zeta Zeta members to accompany me this year. I know you will find the energy and enthusiasm of your sisters in other Chapters to be inspiring.

