

Programs

Washington Upsilon Master, **Richland** member Nadine McJilton was reading a magazine in a doctor's office one day and came across pictures of unusual shoes. She started reading the article and immediately thought it would be a good program material as it was different, informative, and often amusing.

"I asked each member to bring their favorite pair of shoes, the one you just can't bear to throw away," writes Nadine. "Some were so thrilled they brought two or three pairs."

After the program presentation, everyone shared the story of their shoes – where they had danced the night away to the sounds of the big bands, stories about their saddle-shoes from college days, little baby shoes, and boots just made for walking. Each member had a story to tell, so it certainly involved group participation and everyone seemed delighted to share something that had been in the closet for years. "We laughed and laughed the afternoon away as one memory just lead to another to share," writes Nadine.

New York Laureate Phi, Montgomery member Jane DePew put on a program called "Your Pocketbook and You." First things were first: all pocketbooks were measured and weighted. Jane had prizes for the smallest, largest and heaviest.

Members discussed what your pocketbook says about your personality. Jane told the sisters it is a good idea never to put your pocketbook on your table because of all the germs it collects on the bottom of it from shopping carts and other places we put our pocketbooks, such as on different floors that have a lot of germs. Each member thought of three things that they could remove from their pocketbooks to make them lighter.

Let's take a clue from the program and clean out our purses. Now don't you feel better already?

Washington Upsilon Master, Richland members and their chosen shoes.



A chilling scream...a video recorder caught in a tree...an urgent call to a lawyer...

These were some of the cryptic clues the sisters of **Wisconsin Preceptor Phi, Madison** used to uncover the murderer of businessman Josh Cleaver. Chapter members and guests, dressed as the characters in the Internet mystery skit "The Accidental Tourist", acted out the story as a part of a fun-filled, mystery-themed program at the home of member, Ruth Paulson. Since no one knew in advance who the murderer was, members had to use their powers of deduction



A Wisconsin Preceptor Phi, Madison whodunit!

to unmask the culprit who turned out to be Josh Cleaver's business partner, Drake Brown, aka member Tina Wilson-Pleiness.

Nebraska Xi Delta Alpha, Grant County 2008 president, Denise Boots, came up with a twist for their chapters programs. She had each member draw a color at the first of the year. When they gave their program and it tied in with the color they drew they got a little surprise.

Member Linda Brown drew the color red and had everyone dress in something red for her meeting. "There are so many things that red represents or means, such as danger, romance, power, courage, emotions, warnings, heart health, a republican state at elections, even our Nebraska Huskers," writes Linda. "These were just starters."

Everyone had something come to mind with the word red. Discussion on what red means in other countries was an eye-opener to some. Linda even played a game where each member had to come up with a song, movie or book title with red in it. Of course each one got a box of "red" hot tamale candy.

"Our chapter has a friendship basket we draw a name for at each meeting and if you win, you fill it up with goodies for the next meeting. It was great to see it full of red items," writes Linda.

Other colored programs that they have had were pink for breast cancer and green for recycling. What a fun twist to program giving!

When it was time for **Florida Laureate Zeta Omicron, The Villages** member Martha Gardner to do her program, it was difficult to discern who was more excited, her or her fellow chapter members. For when Martha gave a program, it



Nebraska Xi Delta Alpha, Grant County loves the color red for Courage...and for the Huskers!

was always quite something. For her program in May 2008, she dressed in a red flapper-type gown, with head to toe accessories and belted out "Can't Help Loving That Man of Mine." Her chapter is so thankful that this is how they can remember this bright spirit. "Martha died at a very young 86 early this year," writes chapter sister Carol Lynn. "She loved Beta Sigma Phi more than anyone we knew. Carol continues, "She was such a joy to have in our chapter. We called her the Laureate Zeta Omicron Maxine." The last program Martha gave, she read a poem she had written on "What Sorority Means to Me." We would like to share that with you now (*in part*).

*I looked out at thousands of women
They were as far as I could see
And I said "These are my Sisters,"
That's what sorority means to me.*

*We have many caring friendships
And the love we all share is free
I am proud to be a Beta Sigma Phi,
That's what sorority means to me.*

*So thanks for being my sisters
It is all I hoped it would be
And Laureate Zeta Omicron
You're what sorority means to me.*

The late Martha Gardner of **Florida Laureate Zeta Omicron, The Villages**.

