Minutes from April 10, 2018

The April 10, 2018 meeting of the Lambda Alpha Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma was held at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center on Wirt Road. Social hour included dog-themed foods such as hot dogs, hot dawgs (a slimmed-down version of a pig in a blanket), paw-tato chips, and puppy chow provided by Rosemary, Tobey and Sue Thompson. Several canines from the Faithful Paws Therapy Dog group and their owners were there as well.

Janet Smith brought her calendar girl (yes, she was on a dog calendar) Great Pyrenees Blanca. Janet spoke about Blanca’s background and her experiences with Blanca for Faithful Paws. Kathy and Peter Raica shared their experiences with Bonnie and Buddy, their Bernese Mountain Dogs. A Norwich terrier and his owner joined us later. He was lively, but all four were very well behaved. Janet briefly described the training at Bellaire Methodist Church. It varies depending on where you want to take your dog. If a dog is to work in a hospital, there is more training than for working in schools, airports, elder care facilities, and even where the homeless congregate. Buddy, for example, has many friends among the homeless, some of whom call for him by name. Buddy also chooses the rooms to go to in the hospital. Peter shared that Buddy chose a hospital room where there was an older gentleman who didn't say anything but started to pet Buddy and continued for 15 minutes.

Working with Faithful Paws is very flexible as far as the time you want to devote to it and the sort of places you and your dog or cat want to go. Janet and Blanca would be glad to give you more information if you want it.

Janet also spoke to us about volunteering at the zoo. She loves working in the petting zoo area, but there are many other places you can help if you are interested. As with Faithful Paws, you can decide how much time to spend.

The business meeting followed starting with the approval of minutes and the treasure’s report. Old business included information on the State and International conventions. An update on fund raising followed which included the class on April 14th, the sale at John Know on April 21st, and the continuing bagel sales at WW. Information on the GHACC reception for the President on Sunday April 22, 2018 at the Zion Lutheran Church in Pasadena was given.

New business included a reminder of our May 1st meeting at Fratelli’s, news that there would be no Pace given this year, and showing the wonderful Annie slideshow submitted to State created by Rosemary.

> Cathey Jones