

Alpha Beta of Walla Walla, WA Celebrates 75 years

Contributed by Lucy Roeder

1941



1941-1942
Josephine Flaherty
Alpha Beta President

Car: \$925
Gasoline: 19 cents/gal
House: \$6,900
Bread: 8 cents/loaf
Milk: 34 cents/gal
Postage Stamp: 3 cents
Stock Market: 111
Average Annual Salary: \$2,050
Minimum Wage: 30 cents per hour



Original Chartered Members

Alpha Beta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha held its first official meeting in the Windsor Room of the Marcus Whitman Hotel on July 7, 1941. Thirteen members were present, but the chapter boasted a total membership of eighteen. JOSEPHINE FLAHERTY was the chapter's first President. It seems almost an omen that barely two months after this first meeting, Alpha Beta's president Josephine, was elected to the office of Washington State Vice President at the convention in Spokane on September 20 -21, 1941.

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From 1943 to 1945 there was no state President due to World War II. During the war years, Alpha Beta was extremely active and received much publicity both locally and in the Jonquil for the work done for U.S.O., Victory Belles, McCaw Hospital, War Bond Drives, and many other activities.



There are plenty of laughable moments over the last 75 years. Alpha Beta members like to play jokes on each other. One year, at the state meeting, 2 girls removed the mattress off of another member's bed. The victim (of the practical joke) didn't realize it and true to ESA form, she bucked up and slept on the incredibly uncomfortable mattress (or so she thought). Eventually, she discovered that she was actually sleeping on the box spring.



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2017



2017-2018
Shawna Davis
Alpha Beta President

Car: \$33,000
Gasoline: \$2.49/gal
House: \$342,000
Bread: \$2.50/loaf
Milk: \$3.30/gal
Postage Stamp: 49 cents
Stock Market: 23,000+
Average Annual Salary: \$60,000
Minimum Wage: \$11.00 per hour



Today, Alpha Beta continues with the ESA spirit as they have done continually, since the day they were chartered in 1941.

Some of their hard work and commitment includes cooking for the Eastgate Lions (which they have done for 18 years), make lunches once a month for MS patients, and they organize a Bazaar every November.

The secret to their longevity comes from their enjoyment with Philanthropic work serving their community.

Alpha Beta currently has 4 members. As Lucy Roeder said, "We are little, but we are mighty and we are not afraid to host any state meeting like we just did for our 75th anniversary. Everyone had a blast!"



Orville and Lucy Roeder
Orville (Zues award recipient) crochets these towels. The proceeds go toward the chapter's funds.