



Golden Notes

Kent State University Golden Key Newsletter
Spring 2001

Golden Key swings for charity

1st annual swing
dance raises money
for America's
Promise Day for
Youth

By Shawn Turner
Newsletter Editor

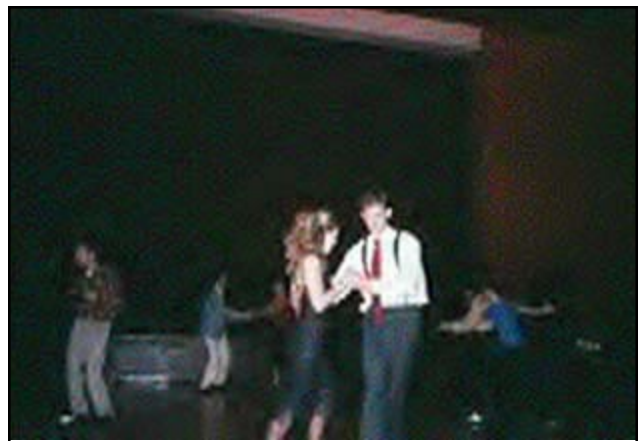
It don't mean a thing if
it ain't got that swing.

Kent State's Golden
Key members found this out for
themselves when more than six
dozen members and guests
crowded the Ballroom,
transforming it, for at least one
evening, into a mecca of
jumping, jiveing and wailing.

The money raised by
the dance went to benefit the
Colin Powell-inspired charity:
"America's Promise Day for
Youth."

The evening began with
an hour-long swing lesson
given by the swing dance
professionals of "Get Hep
Swing." During this lesson,

Two dancers
at the Golden
Key Swing Dance
try out their
moves on the
dance floor.



swing dance instructors from
the company "Get Hep Swing"
helped teach the basic swing
moves, such as the "rock step"
and "tummy touch."

They started the lesson by
separating the men and women
in order to work on footwork
skills. Next, the dancers formed
a large circle. The men then
went counter-clockwise around
this circle, dancing with each
of the women during which one
particular lesson would be
taught. The instructors said the
reason for doing this was
because every dancer has their
own rhythm, and it is important
to experience many different
styles of dancing.

Once the lesson was out
of the way, it was time to hit
the dance floor. Tentatively,
the first few dancers ventured
out. These first few brave souls
were then followed by most of
the remaining dancers.

Overall, the evening was
a great success. Not only was
a lot of money raised for
"America's Promise Day for
Youth", but those who attended
seemed to genuinely enjoy
themselves. One particular
guest remarked to President
Carla Stoll that he wished he
had brought the members of his
swing club. Well, he can bank
on bringing them next time as
plans for next year are on.

President shares success of swing dance

Carla Stoll gives presentation during regional conference

By Shawn Turner
Newsletter Editor

Following up on the success of Golden Key's charity swing dance, President Carla Stoll gave a presentation on how to plan such an event at this year's regional conference at Ohio University in Athens. Following the conference, Carla took the time to detail exactly what she talked about during the presentation.

Q: Tell us a little about the presentation. What was your strategy in presenting it?

A: The workshop was titled "Planning a successful Social Event" and was one of many chapter activity workshops presented. Other workshops included: Membership Drive, Creating an Award Winning Yearbook, Service Excellence, Sophomore Recognition, Induction Ceremony, Jump Starting an Inactive Chapter, Honorary Member Events, Jazz



Golden Key Executive Officers Bill Smelser, Leslie Phalen, Carla Stoll and adviser Robert Zuckerman enjoy dinner at the Regional Convention. Carla said she was not nervous about giving the presentation on the swing dance.

up your Meetings, and Celebrate Key Choices in Life with the Best of America. Vice President Leslie Phalen helped me present by writing attendees' thoughts and suggestions on a large marker board and by reiterating important topics and contact information.

Participants at the workshop received a packet containing a detailed outline, two sample invitation letters and a sample flyer. The workshop covered how to plan social events that engage members. Everything from advertising to catering was discussed. We specifically discussed our swing dance project and brainstormed as a group about other project ideas. The workshop lasted approximately 50 minutes. I was presented with an appreciation and recognition certificate by the host school,

OU, at the end of the workshop.

Q: How well received was it? Were there many people there?

A: About 15-20 people attended the workshop. We received several compliments on how organized and informative the workshop was.

Q: Anything else you would like to say about your experience down at the Regional Convention?

A: Leslie and I both hope to be selected to present the workshop at the International Convention in Dallas this August.

I also attended a personal development workshop on Balancing Stress and a chapter activity workshop on how to Jazz up your Meetings. I am anxious to share what I learned at the meeting.

View to an induction ceremony

By **Tiffany A. Ball**

Newsletter Editor elect

On March 12, the Kent chapter of Golden Key held the induction ceremony for the 2000-2001 academic year in the Student Center Ballroom. This year marked a new high for the chapter, which saw a flood of 706 new members at the ceremony. More students were invited to join but were unable to attend the Monday evening ceremony because of busy schedules.

Busy schedules are a thing which every Golden Key member is familiar, maintaining top 15 percent status while juggling jobs and personal lives.

The ceremony was simple and brief as possible, with a welcoming speech by Provost Paul Gaston. Gaston spoke about the honor and recognition of membership in Golden Key and enumerated the qualities, commitments and requirements that students must possess, make and meet to obtain such an honor.

Great Lakes Regional Director Joy McVey offered a speech of congratulations to the new members, gave a brief history of Golden Key and announced that Golden Key has officially become an international organization, with chapters in the United States, Australia, Canada, Malaysia,

New Zealand and South Africa. Honorary membership was granted to outstanding faculty members Greg Jarvie, dean of students and student ombudsman, and Suzanne R. McMullen, adjunct professor at the Stark Campus.

Awards were also given to outstanding junior and senior inductees. The junior award went to Anaeze Offodile and the senior award was granted to Bridget Wilmot.

Two inductees are not only Golden Key members, but also future television stars! Twins Debbie and Tammy Young, both junior education members, will appear on the documentary-style show "A Makeover Story," produced by The Learning Channel (TLC). The half-hour show provides makeovers for people who want a new look, primarily for special events/occasions. The induction ceremony was the Young's special occasion. TLC provided the new look and the film crew and the girls got to keep their new looks and new clothes in exchange for being followed by cameras. The episode is scheduled to air in the fall.

Overall., the ceremony was a pleasant time of recognition and welcome for the inductees, and an evening



Newly anointed Golden Key members shake hands with current Golden Key officers as they cross the Ballroom's stage after being inducted during the March 12 ceremony. More than 700 members attended the induction ceremony.

of great pride for many family members.

Those who were able to escape busy schedules, face the rainy, cold evening and wait patiently to hear their name announced were rewarded, not only with the refreshments that followed the ceremony, but with a sense of congratulations, honorable achievement and recognition.

Tiffany A. Ball was one of the more than 700 who were inducted into Kent State's chapter of Golden Key International Honor Society. She will start work as the chapter's newly elected Newsletter Editor during the Fall 2001 semester.

**From
the
editor**



Exactly 19 days from now, a five year chapter of my life will close. The final couple of years of that chapter, I am happy to say, were spent being involved with Golden Key.

I am even happier to say that I will be able to look back favorably on my years as a member of this organization. In my 23 years of life on the third planet from the sun in the Milky Way Galaxy, I have been a member of many groups, be they social, academic or career-related organizations. None have come anywhere close to rivaling what I have seen Golden Key accomplish.

It is very easy to talk about what needs to be done, but harder to actually do what has been talked about. Yet this is what our organization has been able to do. From hosting two etiquette dinners to the upcoming "Relay for Life" that will raise money for cancer research, this group of people has continually shown the ability to follow up on what they talk about.

I will miss this group and I sincerely wish them nothing but continued success.

Mind your P's and Q's?

By Bill Smelser

*Co-Golden Key Vice President
of Membership Communication*

On January 29, 2001, Golden Key National Honor Society was privileged and honored to have Chef Ron Perkins of the Schwebel Garden Room host a special Etiquette Dinner for our Kent State chapter.

Chef Ron really went all out to create a special evening of fun, great food, exquisite ambiance and, best of all, valuable training. Instructions were given in many aspects of fine dining. From the opening procedure of *not* sitting immediately at a table to "stake out" a good area of the room, to what is the right thing to do if you drop a fork, to what to do if you have to sneeze, this evening was very enlightening in every aspect of formal dining etiquette and civility.

I was personally unaware of a special area set up for "reception" before a formal dinner is served. This special area serves as a place to gather, have small finger appetizers, a pre-dinner drink and, of course, friendly conversation and mingling among the attendees. I had a distinct advantage over the other attendees however, in that I was a cook in the Navy and learned quite a bit about how to serve, therefore how to anticipate a server's

procedures. I am sure that many of the invitees learned that drinks are served from the right, as well as plates being removed from that side. Also, we all learned how to "deal" with so many pieces of silver, which utensils to use, and, of course, *when to do so*.

Chef Ron was gracious enough and dedicated so to our training that he was able to put together a reference guide for us to take home. This reference guide is all encompassing, from diagrams of the dinner "setting", with full labels for all the glasses and silver, to the etiquette priorities that must accompany proper behavior at such events. From all men at the table rising when a lady leaves the room (and when she returns), to individual grooming pointers, to how to shake hands during the social part of the evening, this training will prove invaluable to myself as well as my fellow Golden Key officers who were lucky enough to attend.

I'd like to personally thank Chef Ron for such an enlightening and thorough training on indeed, *every* aspect of a formal dinner event. Our knowledge of what to do and how to act before, during, and after the affair is priceless.