



DKG International

ALPHA PHI CHAPTER – ALPHA ALPHA STATE PA – Summer Issue 2020

Alphie-Gram Newsletter

Hello Alpha Phi Sisters,

I hope this finds you well and adjusting to “green” and the new normal.

The past several months have been a long journey of challenge and change. As we emerge into this new and somewhat strange world, thoughts turn, I’m sure, to a future that allows us to enjoy the companionship of our friends and family. As we “stayed at home” the Alpha Phi leaders were busy addressing the business of the Chapter. As per previous announcement, two grant in aid recipients were selected. I hope that we will hear from or meet them at a future time. Chapter members were busy “recruiting” new members and one will join us at a fall meeting.- Plans are underway to update the Chapter’s Standing Rules. And, as you know, we exercised the option to conduct electronic votes.

Sadly, the 2020 State Convention was cancelled as was the long awaited International Convention in Philadelphia. But, State DKG activity is bustling. Using Zoom, chapter presidents are attending eight 90 minute sessions to address the most important activities. Two have already taken place. Many strategies have been taken from the book, *Juggling Elephants*, a story about one man with a universal problem. Mark has too much to do, too many priorities, too much stress, and too little time. Expect to hear more about this in upcoming meetings.

As we look to the fall and chapter meetings, please know that we will see some changes. We will meet in the Main Ballroom of Youghiogheny Country Club and tables will be set with social distancing in mind. The new venue may afford better views of the speakers and presentation.

Haddie is working on a modified version of the Red Book which should be available well in advance of the September meeting. A planning meeting with the Executive Committee and committee chairs will take place in mid-July. While I would love to have a summer “excursion” I’m not sure that will happen...more details later.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve as your president for the next two years.

Be well! Be safe! Enjoy the summer!

Judy Bookhamer

Alpha Phi President

**STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
for the ALPHA PHI CHAPTER
of The DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
2020-2022 Biennium**



ALPHA PHI...FORWARD MOVING EVER...
By Becky Johnen

Five years ago we initiated our first strategic action plan (SAP). The 2019-2021 biennium marked our third plan. However, with Covid-19 interrupting our year we really weren't able to work the plan. A new plan for the 2020-2022 biennium has been developed and after a vote this fall, will become our official third plan. While similar to our other plans with areas of focus, goals, and objectives, it is a streamlined version of the previous plan as activities for each objective are not outlined in it.

The proposed plan for 2020-2022 is included with the newsletter. Please take time to review it and get any comments to President Judy. This will be an item for discussion and vote at the first meeting of the year

The work we've done on our past strategic action plans has led to many chapter accomplishments. Be proud of all that you have accomplished and look forward with pride on what will be. Think about how you will contribute to the success of the 2020-2022 plan.

MISSION STATEMENT OF DKG INTERNATIONAL

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

PURPOSES OF DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education.
4. To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.
5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators.
6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.
7. To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

CORE VALUES OF DKG INTERNATIONAL

Collegiality
Professional/personal growth
Leadership
Philanthropy/service
International diversity

VISION STATEMENT OF DKG INTERNATIONAL

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

1. AREA OF FOCUS: MEMBERSHIP

GOAL: Stimulate and increase chapter vitality and sustainability

To meet this goal, we will engage in activities so that we can achieve the following objective

1. Recruit new members
2. Create member connections as a means of retaining members
3. Get members more involved in Chapter activities.
4. Keep membership at 40 or above for chapter viability and sustainability

2. AREA OF FOCUS: CHAPTER VISIBILITY

GOAL: Use a variety of methods to maintain visibility in the communities represented by the members, in the PA State Organization, and in DKG International

To meet this goal, we will engage in activities so that we can achieve the following objectives:

2.1 Work with local public school officials, internal school groups, and personnel within university schools of education to raise awareness of the DKG International Society for Key Women Educators and highlight benefits of joining DKG and the Alpha Phi Chapter

2.2 Publish chapter information, community outreach projects, and accomplishments in traditional and web-based media outlets.

3. AREA OF FOCUS: COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

GOAL: Improve communication and access to information

To meet this goal, we will engage in activities so that we can achieve the following objectives:

3.1 Keep the membership informed of chapter, state and International news through the use of the newsletter, website, and informational emails.

3.2 Develop a plan for electronic meetings using established DKG Guidelines for Electronic Meetings.

4. AREA OF FOCUS: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

GOAL: Promote activities and projects that develop a strong sense of social responsibility and civic awareness

To meet this goal, we will engage in activities so that we can achieve the following objectives:

4.1 Determine how the Chapter can become more involved in community educational projects or with activities coordinated by community groups.

4.2 Engage in activities that support the current state president's project.

5. AREA OF FOCUS: FINANCE

GOAL: Ensure sufficient finances to support the Chapter's activities.

To meet this goal, we will engage in activities so that we can achieve the following objective:

5.1 Conduct chapter business in the most cost-efficient ways.

2020

GRANT-IN-AID RECIPIENTS by Becky Johnen, Grant-in-Aid Chair

Pablo Picasso said, “The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.” As educators, our gift is facilitating the learning process for our students. Whether we are retired or are still actively engaged in providing services to students, we continue to find ways to keep on giving away our gift. Through our Grant-in-Aid (GIA) program, we make the beginning of a future teacher’s journey to find her gift and develop effective ways to give it away a little easier. And, thanks to your generosity, this year we are able to award two delightful young women each a \$750 grant-in-aid!

Our Grant-in-Aid Committee (Zoe Akhtar, Mary Frances Archey, Pam Klein, Simone Miller, LuAnn Sebastian, and Mary Anne Smith) reviewed five applications and selected **Abigail Adamiak** of Avonworth High School and **Austie Russell** of Bentworth High School as our 2020 recipients.

Abigail plans to attend West Virginia University and major in music education. Among other things, she “Hopes to spread the wonder of music to others and to foster curiosity about the arts within students.” She wants, “to be able to build meaningful relationships with a new generation of students and cultivate a welcoming, inclusive, and encouraging environment in my future classroom.”

She was involved in 21 high school clubs or organizations including the National Honor Society, worked teaching drum lessons or babysitting, and participated in several community service activities including a World Vision mission trip to Appalachia (WV).

Austie plans to attend California University of Pennsylvania. When she was in 9th grade, Mrs. Walters told her, “...with a job you will work every day of your life, but with a career you will love every day of your life.” These words provided the inspiration for Austie to become an educator. She wants to “impact and change lives.” Her two years as a student representative to the Bentleyville borough have inspired her to look into government and study history along with education to become a secondary educator with a focus on social studies.

She was involved in four high school clubs, serving as an officer in all four; worked at two jobs throughout high school; and, participated in several community services activities including fund raising for the Special Olympics.

On behalf of the GIA Committee, I extend heartfelt thanks for your continued support of this project. Know that you are making a huge difference in lives of young educators.

GREAT NEWS

Dear Sisters of Alpha Phi.

I am happy to report that as of Wednesday, June 9, I received the last check for dues. We have 100% renewed membership from all of our members. Please note that Lindy Marwood submitted her resignation as a member in November. Therefore, we retained all of our present members. I hope that you are as elated as I am that we are starting out the new year with 40 active members and 3 reserve members.

Becky Johnen, membership chair, received an application from Janice Cmar to join our chapter. She was sponsored by Barbara Gregory. Becky planned an orientation session for Janice that was held on Saturday, June 20 at the Youghiogheny Country Club.

Thanks so much for helping me to achieve my goal of collecting International, State and Chapter dues in a timely manner. I was able to accomplish this task due to your wholehearted support and cooperation.

As a reminder, please remember that the membership card you received in the fall of 2018 is a permanent card that is to be kept for future use. Cards will only be printed for new members going forward.

Hope to see you at our first meeting on September 12, 2020.

In DKG,

Donna Shultz
Alpha Phi Treasurer

ALPHA PHI MEMBERS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT FUNDRAISERS

In 2019-2020, our Alpha Phi Chapter supported four community outreach projects by raising **\$1255.00** for charitable organizations (in addition to the baby items that were collected for Baby Love Layettes).

Bentworth Blessings in a Backpack	\$ 320.00
Bright Beginnings Early Learning Program	\$ 380.00
Olivet Presbyterian Church Food Bank	\$ 270.00
Baby Love Layettes	\$ 285.00
Total Collected	\$1,255.00

In addition, two activities were coordinated by Project Chair, Haddie Weber. These successful ventures raised a total of **\$1038.00**.

Enjoy Books	\$ 400.00
Easter Candy Sales (2)	\$ 473.00
Donations in lieu of selling candy	\$ 165.00
Total Collected	\$1,038.00

Sisters, you deserve a medal and should be very proud of these fundraising efforts.

Executive Board Responds To The Food Crisis

The Executive Board of Alpha Phi Chapter met via a telephone conference call on Wednesday, May 27. During the discussion session, it was pointed out that the cancellation of the April chapter meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic also meant our fundraising efforts for St. Matthews Episcopal Church Food Bank of Homestead were also cancelled.

The board members felt strongly that there was a definite need to support this charity as their caseload has greatly increased in the last three months. As a result, our treasurer suggested that money could be transferred from the **unused** “State Convention Expenses” budgeted category in order to support the food bank. (The state convention was cancelled and thus no funds were expended from this area.) A motion was made and approved to send a monetary donation of \$300.00 to help defray additional expenses that the food bank has encountered during this pandemic. The Executive Board members were grateful that we had the resources to step up to the plate during this unprecedented period.

RED BOOK INFORMATION

If there is any information in the Membership Directory that needs to be edited please send that information to :

Haddie Weber [REDACTED]

SAVE THE DATES

The following dates have been schedule for Alpha Phi Chapter meetings:

September 12, 2020
October 3, 2020
November 14, 2020
March 13, 2021
April 10, 2021
May 15, 2021

FYI

Finance Committee Meeting Wednesday July 15, 2020 at 10:30 AM
[REDACTED]

Planning Meeting Wednesday July 22, 2020

@ South Hills Country Club 11:30 AM

This meeting includes outgoing and incoming officers and committee chair. This is will be a time to exchange materials.

More information will follow

UPDATES

To keep current and informed in what is happening on the state and chapter level check the following WEBSITES:

dkgpa.weebly.com

alphaphipa.weebly.com

**Joint Chapter Meeting **
March 14, 2020
South Hills Country Club

