

# The Alpha Xi Messenger

November 2017



## The President's Message



Greetings,

We've set the clocks back and winter is upon us, albeit no snow yet. Some of us are looking at the mad dash from now until the holidays with a little trepidation. Those of us still in the classroom are eager for a few days off.

If you attended the November meeting, I am sure you were inspired by the Vanka Murals and the expert presentation by docent Buzz Barkovich. It was my first trip, and I was awestruck by the poignant depictions of Maxo Vanka. If you were unable to attend and have not seen the murals, you must put this on your bucket list. Thanks to Terry Klein for organizing the tour and Paulette for coordinating the dinner meeting at Monte Cello's. We had a great meal, covered chapter business and honored Alice Smolkovich in a celebration of life ceremony.

Our December meeting on the 6th will be at "Phyllis's famous church" aka, Trinity Lutheran on Brandt School Road. Members Sallie Fisher and Darlene Farrell will lead us in a cooking demonstration. Our efforts will be combined with the potluck dinner, and we will have a "Let Us Entertain You" live auction to support Grant-in-Aid. This is a grant awarded to a current college Junior from one of our home districts who is majoring in education. Please see the attached form for nominating a deserving former student.

More about the auction: Please bring an unwrapped item valued between \$10-15 to be auctioned. In keeping with the entertainment theme, you can donate kitchen items, decorative items (no holiday, please) or a baked good. Think of some unique gadgets or a fun rubber ducky-handled spatula! Remember to bring lots of cash or your checkbook and a bidding spirit.



## The Alpha Xi Cruise: Join us as we...

### CONVENE in an earlier time

The Great Castle Shannon Train  
Robbery – Ed Hale  
Grazie at the Oxford Athletic Club  
Wexford  
Wednesday, September 20, 2017

### REMEMBER the past

The Vanka Murals Tour – St. Nicholas  
Croatian Catholic Church  
Millvale / Monte Cello's on Babcock  
Thursday, November 2, 2017

### USE cooking tips for easy dishes

Farrel and Fisher Cooking Demo  
Trinity Lutheran Church – Wexford  
Wednesday, December 6, 2017

### IMMERSE ourselves in South Africa & Peru

with travel guides Melody & Terry  
Shaler North Hills Library - Glenshaw  
February 27, 2018

### SUBMERSE ourselves in music

Drum Circle with Pat Bauer  
Hartwood Café - Glenshaw  
Thursday, April 5, 2018

### EMBARK on a new biennium

Initiation of new members and  
installation of officers  
Diamond Run Golf Club – Ohio  
Township  
Saturday, May 5, 2018

## President's Message (cont.)

If you're more organized than I, also bring your gently used clothing for the Dress for Success drive and Shari McGill will collect it. Peg Maser will have the Jared Boxes ready for pickup as well.

Oh, and Phyllis will have the names for the secret sister drawing, so if you want in, let her know ASAP. Looks like a busy meeting.

Please consider answering the PA State call for presenters at the convention June 15-17 in State College. The categories are: education, technology, the arts and humanities, crafts, physical, and enrichment grant recipients. Click [here](#) for the form. The deadline to submit a proposal is January 15, 2018.

Hoping you all are healthy and happy this Thanksgiving! See you December 6th.

Faith Jack  
412-303-5443 / faithj40@gmail.com



## Membership News

**Melissa Costantino-Peruben** and **Jessie Friedrich** both have been awarded renewal of their National Certification. **Melissa** is also a Presidential Award Finalist for Excellence in Math and Science.

**Linda Peffer** recently had her 4th surgery on her elbow.

Condolences to **Marg Foster** who lost her sister to liver cancer. She and her husband, Herm, attended his Army Reunion in October in Michigan. (Korean War) They are headed this month on a cruise to celebrate their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Debbie Stackrow** is traveling to Iceland.

**Karen Klingman** is awaiting the birth of another granddaughter.

**Shari McGill's** son, Paul, is nominated for the Ovation Award for the year's Best Choreography in a musical in Los Angeles.

*December 6th Meeting:*

*Greeters:*

*Nancy Weixel*

*Inspiration: Shari McGill*

*Raffle:*

*Norma Miller*



We award the Grant-in-Aid this year to a female college junior or senior, planning to become an educator. She must have graduated from one of our school districts. Consider someone you know or contact the guidance dept. of your school!

### ♥JARED BOX PROJECT♥

Boxes will be available for you to pick up at the December Meeting and at subsequent meetings.

Thank you for your participation in this project. The variety of items you have chosen to include in the past far surpass the list above. I am sure your creativity is appreciated by the recipients! P.S. Decorate the box with the fact that they must be stacked in mind.

If you have any questions, call Peg Maser at 412-486-4639

### DRESS FOR SUCCESS by Shari McGill, Projects

Remember, you can bring your “*gently used*” women’s clothing to the December meeting. If you know anyone who is cleaning out her closet, be sure to tell her about our project! And if you miss the fall clean out, we will again do this in the spring collecting in April.

Note: leave the clothing in your cars for easy transfer to Shari’s car!

### Reminders for the December Meeting:

- Find an apron to wear for the cooking demo.
- If you are providing a hot dish for the pot luck dinner, please bring it in a crock pot or warmer as the kitchen is going to be in use for the demo.
- Buy or make an item for the “Let us Entertain You” live auction – worth \$10-\$15. (teaser: Melody’s item came from France!)
- Fill your wallet with cash to purchase the auction items! Proceeds will benefit our Grant-in-Aid.
- If you haven’t already done so, give your name to Phyllis ([pljenny@comcast.net](mailto:pljenny@comcast.net)) for participating in Secret Sister. Names will be drawn at the meeting.



### Meeting Minutes General Meeting

Vanka Murals Tour & Monte Cello’s on Babcock  
November 2, 2017

Faith Jack President called the meeting to order  
Welcome guests Pat Bauer and Brenda Barner  
Inspiration Darlene Farrell (From Clint Hurtle) What We Can Learn From Kids

### RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT

Correction made to the Meeting Minutes from September 2017: Nancy *Weixel*.

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT

Peg Maser reported a Thank You was sent to Ed Hale for the Great Castle Shannon Bank Robbery presentation. Condolence cards were sent for the passing of Karen Klingman’s mother and Marg Foster’s sister.

(continued on page 4)

**minutes** (cont. from page 3)

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Sandy Werderitch stated that we are looking for new members and we welcome all of those interested. She encouraged us to bring more guests.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Marg Foster reported the beginning balance as of October 31, 2017 is \$6,197.19. We had 50 members last year and 44 of those have renewed, with 2 who are not (to date).

### **PROGRAM REPORT**

Paulette Hemmings thanked Terry Klein for her help with setting up tour of Vanka Murals and dinner that followed at Monte Cello's. Paulette also reported that our next meeting is December 6, 2017 at Trinity Lutheran Church. She talked about the cooking demonstration, pot luck dinner, and auction.

### **YEARBOOK REPORT**

Faith announced that the corrections to the yearbook should be emailed to Barb MacDonald and will be shared by way of the newsletter.

### **PROJECTS REPORT**

Peg Maser confirmed that the Jared Boxes will be here for December's meeting.

Shari McGill reminded everyone that again we will be collecting gently used clothing to donate to Dress for Success during December and February's meetings.

### **SOCIAL REPORT**

Phyllis Jenny again stated there were sign-ups needed for the inspiration, raffle, and greeting for several of our meetings. We will continue to have the Secret Sister thoughts and card sending program for those who care to sign up. There will be no mini-outings for the winter months.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The next planning meeting for the multi-chapter meeting will be on February 15, 2018.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Calling all workshop presenters for the State Convention in State College, PA June 15–17. This is usually a 45-minute workshop and is generally takes place on Saturday. Some of the areas needed; Education, Technology, Fine Arts and Humanities, Craft Projects, and promoting Physical Health.

The November newsletter deadline is November 10, 2017.

Members shared joys and concerns. Jade Leung won the November day of the month basket.

A Celebration of Life ceremony was held for deceased sister Alice Smolkovich.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shari McGill, Recording Secretary



**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA PROGRAM  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2017  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2500 BRANDT SCHOOL ROAD  
WEXFORD, PA 15090**

**PROGRAM:**

As we **CRUISE** through our year, the “**U**” represents **USING** cooking tips to make an easy appetizer and dessert, which we will learn from members, Darlene Farrell and Sallie Fisher (if you can, bring an apron because the lesson will be interactive)! Afterwards, we will enjoy a pot luck supper and participate in a live auction, with proceeds going to Grant-In-Aid. Bring your kitchen/food/entertainment item(s) worth \$10-\$15, as well as your money or checkbook so that you can participate in the fun and support the project.

**SCHEDULE:**

Social Time: 4:45-5:00  
Cooking Presentation: 5:00-5:30  
Pot Luck Supper: 5:30-6:30  
Auction: 6:30-7:30

**PROJECT REMINDER:**

The Jared boxes and directions will be distributed, and you can bring your clothing donation for the Dress for Success project.

**MENU:**

Bring a covered dish that will serve 8-10 people (since we will enjoy the cooking activity before supper, you may want to bring a crock pot dish that you can keep warm or a chilled dish in a cooler). In addition, your payment of **\$5.00** will cover the cost of paper products and beverages.

**RESERVATION AND PAYMENT DUE BY NOVEMBER 28, 2017**

**SEND FORM AND PAYMENT TO:**

Paulette Hemmings  
5052 Windriver Drive  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Questions? Contact Paulette at 412-331-7894 or [paulette.hemmings@comcast.net](mailto:paulette.hemmings@comcast.net)

---

**YOUR NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR GUEST'S NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR COVERED DISH** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANY PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL NEWS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH US:**