



ALPHA ZETA NEWS

MISSION STATEMENT: TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL GROWTH OF WOMEN EDUCATORS AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

A Message from Our President

Dear Alpha Zeta sisters,
We are going to have an unprecedented year! I have been hearing the description of these “unprecedented” times often, and I realize that this year will be full of challenges and changes, but we can make them more welcome challenges and changes if we manage them together.

So, first, I would like to thank everyone who made our first ZOOM meeting a successful reminder of how Delta Kappa Gamma and our Alpha Zeta chapter have adapted a great deal since all this began in 1929! Just as all of us have spent our careers—past, present, and future--adapting to new methods, new students, and new experiences, so too will we continue to adapt and grow.

We are thrilled to have new members of Alpha Zeta, and hope to continue to spread the word about education through our organization. So, second, please continue to look for new leaders who are interested in joining our ranks.

Please know that I am thinking of you all, as I wrote in my August note, and I know that we will face this year’s challenges and changes with courage as well as the integrity, service, and excellence central to Amy Brown’s thought for the day at that ZOOM meeting! May all of us, teachers past, present, and future, continue to help each other as we grow together this year.

Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Elaine McNeal, President of Alpha Zeta, 2020-2022

Phyllis McNeal called the meeting to order at 7:00 and welcomed online members, inductees and new officers. The Mission Statement and Collect were recited.

Thought for the Day was presented by Amy Brown, a former Air Force member who shared experiences growing up in a military family. Incredibly, she enlisted a few days before the September 11th attack. Military training instilled valuable skills she uses in teaching, that is “Service Before Self” and “Integrity First”. In an ever challenging world where the “scary has become the new norm,” she values military discipline and ability to handle the obstacles that continue to change the world as we know it.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March meeting can be found online.

Treasurer’s Report was shared by President McNeal, prepared by Mary Herman. The balance of \$4249.12 will be submitted for review.

Membership: Denise Amer, chairperson (Theresa Sparrow) shared the form for membership to the group. These are **due by October 16th**.

Caring and Sharing: President McNeal read a thank you note Claire Waldmeyer for cards received during her recent illness. Megan Bohensky, chairperson, could not attend this meeting

Committee Reports

Professional Affairs: The educational grant awarded annually remains \$200 each for college Juniors or Seniors majoring in education. Soni Haflett (Naomi Edsell) reminded members that Athens, Sayre and Northeast Bradford will be submitting applications for 2021, **due in time for November meeting** to be presented at the March meeting. Forms and details can be found on the Alpha Zeta PA website:

<http://alphazetapa.weebly.com/initiation--grant-schedule.html>

Projects: Beth Carman reported that 350 baby books were donated to the Birthing Center (Robert Packer Hospital) this year. A cash donation was also made to the Nurse / Family Partnership.

Retiree Recognition Phyllis McNeal, Colleen Kane and Sherry Stiner

Adjournment: There being no old or new business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm singing the Delta Kappa Gamma Song. Music was provided by an audio recording.

Program Induction Ceremony of New Members and New Officers by Colleen Kane

New Inductees: President McNeal congratulated the newest members Alpha Zeta Chapter as they accepted their responsibilities that come with this society.

Amanda Gillette (Sayre): Band Director / music teacher Grades 5-12

Sarah Kemp (Athens): 8th Grade Science teacher

Induction of Officers The ceremony was conducted by Colleen Kane recognizing the following officers for 2 year terms:

Phyllis McNeal: President

Denise Amer: First Vice President

Barbara Pulver: Recording Secretary

Megan Bohenski: Corresponding Secretary

Ruth Olson: Parliamentarian

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Pulver, Secretary

Dates to Remember:

Next meeting Troy First Baptist Church (Zoom) - November 7, 2020

Athen United Methodist Church or Zoom - March 6, 2021

Tri-Chapter Meeting - May 22, 2021

PA State Convention - June 11-13, 2021

DID YOU KNOW?

Creative Arts Retreat is coming up? April 23-25, 2021 at the Olmstead Manor in Ludlow, Pa. We have 3 members that will be doing workshops. Carol Lane will be doing Walk the Labyrinth and also Doodle Therapy. Stephanie Olver will be doing Stress Management and Mediation also Linda Nickerson will be leading a Book Discussion. Be sure to check out the Winter Keystone for more information and a list of all the wonderful workshops being offered. It's a great weekend of workshops, conversation and loads of fun!!

Message from Our State President

Eileen Little has asked all chapters to refrain from using any form of contact information in their newsletters. This includes email addresses, phone numbers and home addresses. By omitting the contact information, we protect the privacy of all members of DKG. Should you need to contact Alpha Zeta members their information is available in the yearbook. Contact information for all state and international members is available on their respective websites and is protected.

Robert Packer Hospital Accepts Donation of Baby Books

The Alpha Zeta chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society recently made a donation of more than 350 baby books to the First Impressions Birthing Center at Guthrie Robert Packer Hospital.

The books will be given to new mothers and infants when they leave the hospital. The goal of this project, now in its twenty-first year, is to encourage new parents to read to their children in order to help develop a love of reading from a young age.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honorary society of women educators. The society promotes professional and personal growth of its members and excellence in education. The local Alpha Zeta chapter is comprised of educators from Athens, Canton, Northeast Bradford, Sayre, Towanda, Troy and Sullivan County school districts.

