



ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER

FALL 2012



Greetings,

Most schools in the area are back in session and I want to wish the best to all our members that are returning to the classroom. I have two daughters of my own that are teachers so I hear the concerns of going back to school –“will I have time to get my room ready, what new idea are they going to throw at us, just what are acquisition plans, will there be any time to teach with all the extra expected” and so on and so on.

As I was watching my daughters prepare for school I was also watching my two youngest grandchildren prepare for their first school adventure as kindergarteners. The joy of buying that first special pencil case and backpack and the excitement of going to orientation to meet their teacher were paramount moments for them. I wish that each of you as teachers is able to catch that excitement despite all the uncertainties of your approaching year.

I received this short note from my daughter after leaving her son, Nicholas, at kindergarten.

*“We made it to the school in time to hang out outside with friends and meet some other students/parents/teachers. I think he had a brief moment of nerves when the Principal started talking. He quickly asked for hugs and said **"It's going to be okay. It is! Kindergarten is going to be fun and exciting."** I'm not sure if he was reassuring us or himself?! But, he gladly found his way to his classroom, found his cubby, put away his lunch and backpack and found his name tag at the table.”*

I hope that as the year progresses that you find students that want to learn and find it meaningful because of your desire to excel at teaching. When you have some of those bad moments this year remember Nicholas' words “It is going to be okay. It is.”

Once again this year **Teachers Helping Other Teachers** will be a theme of our Chapter. We want and need to hear how we can help you. To those retired, please reach out to those still in the classroom. Excellence in Education works best when we help each other.

HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR

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Conventions

Happy Birthday to us, Happy Birthday to us.... Alpha Alpha's 75th birthday was celebrated at the State Convention in June at State College. This year's theme was "Embracing the Vision....designing the future." Along with the opportunity to meet new friends and renew old friendships we were challenged by our state president, Louann Shrader to "Reflect in the past, understand the present, and anticipate a bright future."

I personally felt one of the highlights of the convention was the one-woman show by Kate Campbell Stevenson. She shared the stories of "several women who had exceeded the expectation of their time, had a vision, following their dreams, and made a difference." If you are ever able to see her performance you will be inspired. Many delegates were able to attend her workshop as well.

Alpha Zeta had 13 members in attendance at various points throughout the weekend. We also had three members honored as Women of Distinction: Connie Burlingame, Francesca Homet and Olynda Smith. Colleen Kane was the recipient of the Marion Spitzer Roebing Scholarship. Congratulations to all these ladies.

Several of our member participated in the Chorus. Again, it is just amazing to see the talent of our members.

The special thanks to Joyce Roof and Linda Ferraro for their time and effort in running the basket raffle. An excellent job ladies, and much appreciated by the State treasury.

One exciting item of business was the approving of our own Cynthia Devonshire as webmaster for the Alpha Alpha webpage. Be sure to check it and our chapter website on a regular basis. You will find the addresses in the note that follows from Cynthia:

"This has been a busy summer for DKG with the State and International Conventions. At the State Convention I was appointed to the position of Alpha Alpha Sate Webmaster. So, even though I was not able to go to either convention, I have been kept in the loop. Linda Nickerson had initially designed the state site and I was able to finish it and get it uploaded to the new Alpha Alpha State Site. This new site has been Certified by DKG and linked to the International Site. However, the site is easily accessible at www.alphaalphapa.com. Check it out and see what is new. I have also added several news items to our own Alpha Zeta site at www.alphazetapa.weebly.com. As I said, this had been a busy summer for DKG. I will be updating the Alpha Zeta site when plans for 2012-2013 are final."

Carol Lane and Stephanie Olver attended the International Conference in New York City in July. Thank you ladies for representing Alpha Zeta! You will be hearing from them at our first meeting on happenings at this level.

Summer in Their Words

My Husband Bob and I were joined by 37 other travelers and enjoyed a trip to Ireland in June. We flew into Dublin and spent the next seven days touring the Irish country side. I did kiss the Blarney Stone which was quite an ordeal as they put us upside down over the opening at the top of the castle. The Cliffs of Mohr and Selligs were an unbelievable sight. We also were able to see 2 shows –Liam O'Connor and River Dance. We knew most of the people on the trip as it was sponsored by the Northeast Bradford Education Foundation. I also had a luau for 75 people in July and my daughter was married in Roanoke, VA the following week. All and all it was a very busy summer.

Linda Ferrario

My husband Skip and I traveled to Charleston, SC for the June wedding of our son Christopher and fiancée Katherine. The wedding ceremony took place in the Confederate House garden. Following the wedding, the guests marched behind a drum line through the streets of Charleston to the Smith Killian Fine Art Gallery for cocktails, before jazz stepping on to McCurdy's Restaurant for dinner. After dinner the reception was held at Marians in the French Quarter. Among the guests traveling to Charleston for the wedding were good friends, Marsha and Bill Krause.

In July, we traveled to Chicago to visit son Marshall in the Windy City. Connie and Skip enjoyed the many activities Marshall had planned for their stay, culminating with fireworks on the Fourth with views over Lake Michigan.

Thank you to my wonderful Delta Kappa Gamma sisters for the many cards of sympathy that we received at the time of my father's death in June. Once again Alpha Zeta has shown that compassion, caring, and concern are an intrinsic part of our organization. Your kind words meant a lot to me.

Connie Roupp

The Pulvers vacationed in Jamaica this July, attending a family wedding. Memorable moments were highlighted by the groom losing his wedding ring in the Caribbean the day after being wed. A costume band replaced the real one temporarily as everyone tried to assure him life does go on.

Barb Pulver

My daughter Meredith got married to Randall Shores on Saturday, June 2nd at Pheasant Hill. Also, Gary and I went on a trip to Ireland with the NEB foundation in June.

Marianne Hennip

My husband Howard and I enjoyed a trip with Peggy Dettwiler (Mansfield University Choral Director) and husband, Juren Thym to Lake Como in Northern Italy, then through the Swiss Alps followed by a stay in a Bed and Breakfast in the Black Forest of Southern Germany where Jurgen's parents had spent vacations over the years.

Olynda Smith

My husband and I took a trip to Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji. We had a wonderful adventure and were gone for almost a month. Our favorite place was New Zealand.

Joanne Adams

I traveled to Ireland with the Northeast Education Foundation Group at the end of June. We spent seven days traveling through Southern Ireland by bus. I am still feeding Volunteers in Mission from Lawrenceville who are continuing to help flood victims in Athens

Joyce Roof

Phil and I have been busy with projects around the house as well as traveling. We have been to New Hampshire and Maryland and will soon be heading to Maine and then to Missouri for RV rallies. The wheels of our RV go round and round....! I hope everyone has had a healthy summer.

Cindy Devonshire

I have been busy with projects around the house and yard. Currently they are putting a new roof on the house. I keep busy volunteering at the LeRoy Heritage Museum and with the Emergency Management Agency. We are currently planning a county wide disaster drill. It will give the County and local municipal agencies an opportunity to practice procedures in handling a variety of disasters. (gas well explosion, flood, tornado, plane or bus crash, and criminal or terroristic act on a pipeline) Of course the flood and tornado scenarios have already occurred.

Vicki Van Noy

Chapter Business

September Meeting

Our first meeting for 2012-2101 will be held on Thursday, September 20th at the Towanda American Legion.
Dinner will begin at 4:45 PM.

Executive Board and Committee meetings will be at 5:15 PM followed by Chorus rehearsal at 5:30 PM.
Remember the chorus is always looking for new voices.

The business meeting will begin at 6:00 PM followed at approximately 7:00 PM with the initiation of our new members.

We are pleased to welcome this year initiates to our Chapter:

Sue Middaugh – Learning Support Teacher – Northeast Bradford

Lisa Reynolds – Music teacher – Athens Area Schools

Dorothy Weir - Music teacher – Northeast Bradford

Dues should be made payable to Alpha Zeta and sent to our Treasurer: **Vicki Van Noy**
7436 Route 514
Granville Summit, Pa. 16926.

Active members - \$80 Reserved members -\$45

If you wish, checks may be held for deposit until the last dues payment on October 30th. Just send a note with your check and it will be held until that date.

Everyone who pays their dues prior to the September meeting will have their name put into a drawing and the winner will have their dinner paid for the meeting. So far only 36 members have paid their dues.

There are time limits in reporting to the state that Vicki has to meet so let's all help her out and get our dues in before the September meeting.

Thank you in advance for sending dues in prior to the September 20th meeting.

Looking for New Initiates

Members from Canton, Sullivan County, Towanda, and Troy need to start thinking about selecting women educator from their districts for membership in the fall of 2013. Shirley Allis will have forms and deadlines to present to you at the September meeting. Remember that we are looking for excellent teachers but also for ladies that will take an active part in our chapter.

Recruitment Grant Applications

Athens, Sayre, and Northeast Bradford are the schools eligible to submit names for the 2012 Recruitment Grant. These applications are due at the November meeting. Names of Junior or Senior girls majoring in Education are eligible to be considered.

New Retiree

Congratulations to Joyce Kerrick on reaching this big milestone in her life. We welcome you to the world of retirement but can't imagine that you wouldn't still be actively involved in many new roles. Please let me know if there are others that retired.

Dates to Remember

September 22, 2012 - Fall Area Conference East, Hosted by Xi Chapter. Details are on the state web site.

October - Application for next year's initiates are due

November 3, 2012 - Meeting at First Baptist Church, Troy - Basket Raffle

Thank You

Special thanks to Elaine and Linda for auditing the books and to Joyce and her committee for preparing this year's budget. These are important tasks that can't be taken lightly.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ENRICHMENT GRANTS

Alpha Alpha State Scholarships and Enrichment Grants are available to members in good standing who have held membership for at least three years. State Scholarships are offered for graduate study leading to an advanced degree or certification, or job/self-improvement. A scholarship recipient may apply more than one time, but an individual's total may not exceed \$7,000.

The Marian Spitzer Robling Scholarship is awarded to one active member in her 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year of Delta Kappa Gamma membership who is working in graduate study. The approximate amount of \$1,000 is awarded each fiscal year.

Enrichment Grants are awarded for enrollment in an Elderhostel program and continuing education for personal and professional growth, a travel/study tour, or to develop an approved independent study project or to present a paper to a professional organization. An Enrichment Grant applicant may not receive more than \$5,000 and an award point system is used as criteria for selection

All applications for Scholarships and Enrichment Grants must be postmarked no later than February 1.

Application forms for the State Scholarships and Enrichment Grants can be downloaded at the Alpha Alpha State website at: www.alphaalphapa.com. Click on Resources to find the downloadable forms.

All Scholarships and Enrichment Grants must be used in the fiscal year following the convention when they are awarded.

International Scholarships are available to members pursuing qualifying graduate studies. Each year up to 30 scholarships are awarded to members that have been an active member of the Society for at least three years, completed a master's degree or equivalent, and are presently accepted or enrolled in a graduate program of a nationally accredited institution of higher education. Members that qualify may receive up to \$6,000 for assistance in graduate studies. Applications may be downloaded from the Society web site at www.dkg.org. The deadline for all applications is February 1.

The Lucile Cornet Professional Development Award is available to educators (society members or nonmembers) for participation in professional development opportunities such as workshops, seminars, conferences and courses. Awards up to \$2,000 may be granted. Applications are accepted three times a year: Feb.1, May1, and Sept. 1. Applications are available at www.dkg.org.

Wonderful opportunities await each of you if you will only take advantage of them. The applications require time to get them completed so be sure to start the application process several weeks prior to the postmark deadline.

Submitted by **Carol Lane**

Items for next newsletter

I am asking for your help in preparing the newsletters for this year. Since this is the 75th birthday of Alpha Alpha I was thinking of all the changes that have occurred in education over the last 75 years.

I was fortunate to attend a one room school house at the beginning of my formal education so I have seen many changes as a student and as a teacher.

I would like as many of you as possible to share some of these changes with the rest of us. If you would send these to me, I will compile them and share them with the Chapter. You can send as stories or lists but let's share. I am certain your stories will be read with delight by the rest of us. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Post Script

Many of you are still wondering about the change in Presidency this year. June Wynne, due to family health issues, felt she would be unable to fulfill the duties as president for this term. Therefore, according to our by-laws, I was to step up from First Vice President to the presidency.

At our executive committee meeting in June, I appointed June to the role of First Vice President and she has been busy in this role preparing the programs and getting the booklet to press.

I thank all of you for your support in this transition and hope we have a smooth year.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and hope to see you on September 20th at the American Legion in Towanda.

Naomi Edsell

