



Dear Alpha Zeta Sisters,

It is almost unbelievable that it has been a month since the Alpha State Convention! Those attending were helping, visiting friends made at prior conventions, making new friends, and gaining helpful information at the many workshops offered.

YES! Stephanie Olver won a raffle basket as did Deb Fitzwater. Everyone seemed to be engaged, equipped, and empowered as our retiring Alpha State President Kay Stuart wanted members to be.

The Celebration of Life is a time to reflect on and to remember those who, though departed from this life, still find fond moments in our memories. Alpha Zeta sisters Dr. Marcella Hyde-Smith and Sibyl Stump-Pyle were among those remembered.

Three Alpha Zeta sisters will be attending the Northeast Regional Convention in Baltimore this month. We look forward to their sharing news of the Convention during the 2015-16 year.

With mid-summer near, most of you are enjoying, have enjoyed, or will be enjoying summer vacations, hopefully, to relax and refresh. For the fall newsletter we will anticipate hearing from some of you about those vacations.

The September meeting is being planned for September 17, 2015. (* Note the change from September 24 as printed in the handbook.) We look forward to meeting the new initiates and to seeing who will receive the Head Start Chair.

Thank you to all of you for making Alpha Zeta a premier (Kay's word) chapter in Alpha State.

Several certificates of recognition were given at the Convention and the Alpha Zeta Chapter was among the chapters recognized. Our Cynthia Devonshire, who is also the state webmaster, received a certificate for her excellent work, We are very proud of Cynthia and all the work she does for our chapter and Alpha State. The five Alpha Zeta sisters chosen for the Album of Distinction honor are outstanding examples of the many ways in which our members serve their schools, churches, colleagues, communities, and country.

If anyone needs a new membership pin, please let me know by July 25 so that we will have them at the September meeting.

Thank you to the officers and committee chairmen who attended the planning meeting for the coming year. Excellent programs and "connecting" ideas were among the items discussed.

Hoping to see all members at as many meetings as possible and looking forward to working with all of you in 2015-2016.

June



2015 State Convention Report

On June 12-14, 2015 over 230 Delta Kappa Gamma members of Alpha Alpha State gathered at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College to celebrate and enjoy membership. Alpha Zeta was well represented with five members being honored in the Album of Distinction. The Alpha Zeta members being honored were: Lyn Eberlin, Linda Ferrario, Barbara Pulver, Sherry Spencer, and Janet Zimmer.

There were sixteen members in attendance on Friday evening and ten Alpha Zeta members present for the whole weekend. Shirley Allis, Cindy Devonshire, Linda Ferrario, Joyce Kerrick, Carol Lane, Linda Nickerson, Stephanie Olver, Ruth Olson, Joyce Roof, and June Wynne were there for the weekend and Deb Fitzwater, Barb Pulver, Sherry Spencer, Vicki Van Noy, Clare Waldemeyer and Janet Zimmer joined us for Friday evening.

Cindy Devonshire and Linda Nickerson were workshop presenters and Joyce Roof and Linda Ferrario were in charge of the Raffle Baskets. Linda Nickerson and Joyce Kerrick represented us by singing in the chorus.

Alpha Zeta was honored with three awards, one each for our Newsletter, Certified Website and Strategic Action Plan. Our former president and Alpha Zeta member, Becky Place was honored with the 2015 Alpha Alpha State Achievement Award. This was a thrill for all Alpha Zeta and Beta Rho members present.

There was great food, fellowship, speakers, and workshops. If you have never been to a State Convention you should consider planning for it in the future.

There are over 500 pictures of the weekend posted on the Alpha Alpha State website. Go to www.alphaalphapa.com > State Convention>State Convention photos for Power Point Presentations. There are also pictures posted on the Alpha Zeta Website under NEWS.

2015 Women of Distinction: Barbara Pulver, Linda Ferrario, President June Wynne, Janet Zimmer and Sherry Spencer





Member News

Just letting you know that I did retire this year as reading specialist for Canton Area School District. I taught there for the last 24 years. Over time, I taught for 35 years all together. It was a great career! ~ **Holly Keegan**

I am enjoying the warm weather and tending the gardens. Two teenagers from our congregation helped me plant 100 pounds of sunflower seeds and 300,000 wildflower seeds in the foundation where my parent's barn was taken down last fall. See lots of little plants starting but am not sure which are flowers and which are weeds. Time will tell. Enjoying the Bible Study I'm conducting at Twin Oaks Personal Care Home. So many of the residents were friends of my parents and are parents of high school classmates that we always have fun after our lesson reminiscing. Wishing all our sisters a relaxing summer. ~ **Vicki Van Noy**

Howard and I recently returned from a two-week trip to Alaska, where we went from Fairbanks, Alaska to Vancouver, Canada by way of bus train and cruise ship. – **Olynda Smith**

I retired at the end of this year after 35 years of teaching music! Have a great summer.
Pam Obert.

I am enjoying being home, but we have plans to travel to Maine in August for an RV rally and to celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary. ~ **Cindy Devonshire**



June Hottenstein off visiting with family in Pittsburgh.



Pam Obert at her retirement party



Joyce Roof, Barbara Fleming and Michele Snell traveled to Italy this summer.

Late news about the Bradford County Forensic Team's showing at nationals:

Three Bradford County students--Caroline Vana, Blakely Watkins, and Lydia Szlasa--earned scholarships for qualifying for nationals for all four of their high school years. Less than one percent of the students attending nationals are able to do so all four years of high school.

The two young women who presented at the March DKG program did very well. Amanda Mooney (who performed "The Woman Who Walked into Doors") placed in the top 100 out of about 260 speakers in Dramatic Interpretation.

Lydia Szlasa didn't score so well with her Humorous Interpretation piece "Easy A". However, she presented a shortened version of #Selfless (her original speech) and advanced round after round, finishing in the top 10 nationally! About 160-180 students competed in that event--Expository Speaking.

We are already thinking about next year's tournaments! Thanks so much for your support.

Sally Hickey

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ENRICHMENT GRANTS

Once again I encourage you to apply for a Scholarship or Enrichment Grant from Alpha Alpha State.

This year at our State Convention it was announced that there was only **one** application for a Scholarship and only 9 requests for Enrichment Grants. No one applied for the Marian Spritzer Robling Scholarship that is granted to an active member pursuing graduate study with **three or less years** of membership.

Scholarships for graduate study are available for up to \$7,000 and enrichment grants for personal and professional growth may be awarded up to \$5,000. The Marian Spitzer Robling Scholarship averages from \$900 to \$1,000.

These are wonderful opportunities for our membership. Please consider applying for one. Application forms are available on the state web site: <http://www.alphaalpha.com/dkg-forms.html>

The State Scholarship Chairman suggests that the application process should be underway by November and the deadline for applications is Feb. 1.

I am always willing to help in the application process.

Carol Lane
Scholarship Chairman
Alpha Zeta



Recruitment Grants

The following school districts are eligible this year for Recruitment Grants: Canton, Sullivan Co., Towanda, and Troy. These recruitment grants will be awarded to juniors and seniors in college pursuing a major in education. The applications are due to Soni Haflett by October 15th, so start thinking about it NOW! The form for the Recruitment Grant is attached to the email you just received about this newsletter. Forms are also available for download from the Alpha Zeta website: www.alphazetapa.weebly.com.

2016 Initiates

The school districts of Athens, Sayre and Northeast Bradford are eligible for new initiates in 2016. Please meet with your fellow DKG members and consider nominating several deserving teachers from your district. Application forms are on the Alpha Zeta Website under Initiation and Grant Schedule.



Technology Update

After some discussion with the Executive Board it was decided to make our Membership Directory on the Alpha Zeta Website password protected. This is to protect our members. When you click on the directory you will be asked for a password. Our password is simply **alphazeta**. The password is all lower case and all one word. It is also recommended by International that all members sign a waiver allowing their information and pictures to be shared on the internet. Look for a questionnaire coming to your mailbox soon to accomplish this task.



Member Dues

With autumn comes the obligation of your member dues. To make things easier for our treasurer, PLEASE pay your dues to Vicki **BEFORE** the September meeting! Remember, members that pay before the meeting just might get a free dinner! Please send your check for \$80. made out to Alpha Zeta Chapter of DKG to Vicki:

Vicki Van Noy
7436 Route 514
Granville Summit, PA 16926

Address Changes

Shirley Allis is working hard on new pages for our handbook. If you have any changes in your address (regular address OR email address) please be sure to let Shirley know so that your correct address can be printed in the new handbook pages. If you have an email address change and neglect to notify us, you will not receive your newsletter or any caring and sharing information that is sent out. Shirley also needs to know if you have recently retired. SO, please take a minute and review your address in your handbook and also on our website. Let us know if changes need to be made.

On the road to Northeast Regional Conference! Enjoy!

