



PSI'S BIRTHDAY MEETING

MAY 2ND 6 P.M.

COFFEE CAKES, BROOKVILLE, PA

(Parking available on Main St. and in back parking lot)

There are no steps into Coffee Cakes

MENU:

Wraps: Italian, Turkey, Ham, Veggie, Chicken Salad

Potato Salad, Spring Salad

Baked Beans

Veggie Tray

Cupcake

Lemonade, Iced Tea, Coffee

As a special treat for the ladies of Psi, immediately following the meeting, host Kathy McCabe will lead a tour of the historic Marlin Theater which is in the process of being renovated. A real treasure is being restored, and you'll definitely enjoy stepping back in history!

There will be steps up to the theater.

Please send your check for \$12 per person to co-host Margaret Ponchel,
225 5th St., Brookville, PA 15825 by April 28th.

*****clip and return bottom portion*****

Name _____

Number attending _____

Amount enclosed _____

PSIGN OF THE TIMES



April 2014 Psi Chapter Alpha Alpha State



President Allison

When we take turns doing the hard tasks, when we encourage others, we become stronger through shared leadership. - Author unknown

As I sat trying to think of how to say farewell to my biennium, the theme I returned to over and over was support and teamwork. I could not have done any of this in the last two years without the help of many of you. When asked to take this position, I agreed because I had learned that a DKG girl doesn't say no. When the realization sunk in of the enormous task that I had just undertaken, I must admit I was a little panicked. I had not been an officer, I wasn't sure that my ten plus years as a member gave me enough knowledge, and I knew I had too much on my plate personally. That being said, I wasn't alone in this adventure, so I knew it would all work out just fine.

I must thank each and every member for their support during the last two years. From those of you who volunteered as hostesses, planned or presented programs, headed up committees, made crafts for Ways and Means, offered materials for Early Career Educators, and shared the vision of DKG; I applaud you. None of our purposes are fulfilled without all of us working together to make it happen.

I've learned a tremendous amount over the last two years and enjoyed all the amazing experiences that came along with this position. I know that we are moving forward under the leadership of a great incoming president, whom I couldn't have done any of this without. Please support and encourage her as you have done for me. Thanks for a great biennium!

You must do the thing you think you cannot do. Eleanor Roosevelt.



A VOLUNTEER'S EXPERIENCE IN THE WARM HEART OF AFRICA

Peace Corp... Hardest job you'll ever love!

Brianna Reed, a Professor at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, presented our program on her experiences in Malawi 2010-2012 as a Peace Corp Volunteer. The Peace Corp was established in Malawi, a country in eastern Africa, in 1963 and except for a few years in the late 1960's and early 1970's, has been actively serving in Malawi. There are 130 volunteers, serving in four areas. The areas of concentration are Environment, Education, Health, and Response. Volunteering for the Peace Corp requires a two year commitment. There is an eight week training that includes language, living with a family, and skills training. Reed told us she had to learn to wash dishes without soap and water, clean without a broom or mop, and slaughter a chicken if she wanted to eat one. She worked closely with the people of the village as part of the Environment Program. One project was the building of a library that freed up a classroom in the school. Each classroom had 50-60 students with two teachers and with the additional room, this helped provided more space for the students to study. Brianna gave us a wonderful insight into the culture, food, customs and lives of the people of Malawi and made us appreciate all the conveniences we take for granted!!! Thank you Brenda Brinker for finding such an interesting and informative presenter and for being a wonderful hostess!!!

INITIATION

Psi Chapter welcomed their newest member, Sue Olsakovsky at the March meeting. Sue is from Brockway and teaches 4th grade. She also taught in the DuBois Area Elementary Schools. Pictured to the right is Jennifer Keith, initiated in September, President Allison and Sue.

In the picture at Mary's Place is our other September initiate, Barbara Pisarchick.



CHAPTER MEMBERS INFORMATION

Dottie Hughes - finished Chemo

Kathy Dinger – second knee replaced and is doing great!

Phyllis Howard – passing of her Father

Phyllis Howard – attended a Dulcimer Convention

Phyllis Howard – new granddaughter - Lauren Marie

Barb Clark – attended DKG In-coming Presidents Training

Debbie Britton – new granddaughter - Leah Ilene

Tracey Dusch – directed another successful musical! *Back to the Eighties*

Ellen Rose – van hit on the way home from North Carolina – everyone ok – van NOT so much

Barb Pisarchick - had tea at Downton Abby

Penny Peters - passing of her Aunt

Debbie Fye - daughter got married

Judy Perrin - family health issues

MAY MEETING

In place of our Birthday gifts to exchange for our Psi Chapter Birthday Celebration this year, we voted to use this celebration to prepare for our Teacher Bags for newly hired teachers for the 2014-15 school year. **Each member is asked to bring a \$10.00 gift card from a store/web site that a new teacher could buy supplies pertaining to their individual subject or classroom needs.** Once the new teachers have been identified, the following members have volunteered to deliver the bags: DuBois Area – Dawna Vanderpool; Punxsutawney – Karen Young; Clarion – Penny Peters; Redbank Valley – Phyllis Howard.



PENNSYLVANIA STATE CONVENTION

Mark your calendars and send in your reservations for the 2014 Alpha Alpha State Convention!!! It will be held June 13-15, 2014 at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College, PA. You can attend the three days or just one day – it's only a couple of hours drive from us!!

Saturday is a BIG day!! Ryan Devlin, from Brockway Area High School (graduate and teacher) is Pennsylvania's 2013 Teacher of the Year and will be the Keynote Speaker at the First General Session. There will be Society Workshops for each of our committees in the morning and professional and personal advancement workshops in the afternoon. The Celebration Luncheon will celebrate Chapter Birthdays, women earning Doctorates, Communication Awards, and Musical Celebrations. The Banquet will present the Out-going and In-coming Chapter Presidents (Allison and Barb would appreciate all the support from their sisters!!!!) and the Keynote Speaker Mary Lee Makinen, Northeast Regional Director.

Sunday morning will be the Celebration of Life Ceremony.

Jennifer Keith has agreed to prepare Psi's Basket for the Basket Raffle at the Convention. The theme will be the K-cups coffee/mugs etc.



The Lunch Bunch of Psi Chapter has been meeting for lunch the first Thursday of the month (except for December and January). They met at Plylers, Brookville in October; The Meeting Place, Brookville in November, where they also visited Coffee Cakes and the Opera House; after a weather postponement in February, the group met at Mary's Place, Punxsutawney in March; Luigi's, DuBois in April.

What a fantastic time for the retirees to get together and get to know one another. A requirement – the first time you attend, you must tell something about yourself that no one else knows. WOW

have there been some revelations!!!! There will be NO revealing here – you will just have to ask a Lunch Bunch attendee!!!

Thank you Karen Ball!!!! This has been a fantastic idea and the retirees love it and those still teaching are jealous!!!!



Mary's Place



In front is Barbara Pisarchick.

WE'RE TRYING SOMETHING NEW!!!

This summer we're going to have a Psi Family Picnic at the Brockway Taylor Memorial Park. It will



be on a Wednesday and the whole family is invited...kids, grandkids, Dads, etc. We will each bring a cover dish and have a wonderful time socializing. There is a playground (with a sprinkler for kids run on), basketball court, sand volleyball court, community pool (open late on Wednesdays), and a pavilion for our food. Plan on bringing your

Mahjong games, cards, and games for the kids and have a ball! Details will be coming later! Hope you and your family will be able to join us!!!



DKG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

The DKG International Convention will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 28-August 1, 2014. The biggest excitement for those of us from Pennsylvania will be seeing our own Dr. Lyn Schmid elected as International President! Tours, Workshops, Banquets, General Sessions with Keynote Speakers, Voting on the Proposed Amendments to the *Constitution and International Standing Rules* that were published in the Mar/Apr DKG NEWS Forums, Displays, Socializing and Shopping - all are wonderful experiences that occur at the Convention! Plan to attend...if not this year, maybe the Regional in 2015 in Baltimore or the 2016 International in Nashville!

STATE PROJECTS

One Chair, Two Chairs, Red Chairs, Blue Chairs

by Melody Hannegan, Projects Coordinator

In an age of sequestration, government shut-downs, and economic struggles, we all have seen negative effects in the field of education. Especially hard hit is the Head Start program for early education, not only on a national level, but here in Pennsylvania. The harder the hit, the more chairs sit empty, lacking youngsters who need an early start to succeed in school throughout their youth.

For this reason, we have chosen The Pennsylvania Head Start Association as the recipient of our state project for this biennium. We are asking each chapter to participate by securing one or two preschool size chairs and painting them with an educational theme (e.g. children's handprints, the alphabet or numbers). Our first goal is to kick off the fund-raiser with all the chairs lined up at the State Convention in June at the Nittany Lion Inn. Then chapters will take the chairs home and use them as a focal point for raising funds over the course of the next school year.

This idea stems from a **Fill-a-Seat Project** by the Community Partnership for Child Development in Colorado Springs. <http://www.epcdheadstart.org/news/2013/9/23/44-community-classroom-grand-opening> It funded a Head Start classroom that had been cut due to sequestration. The **Empty Seats = Lost Opportunities**



advocacy program by the National Head Start Association also addresses sequestration. http://www.nhsa.org/advocacy/empty_seats_lost_opportunities

More detailed information about the project has been sent to chapter presidents and the EEC will include a presentation on it in the EEC workshop at the state convention.

The two International projects are still in full swing this year. Last year, we collected materials for early-career educators (SEE – **Support Early-Career Educators**). This year we want to collect **ideas** for them. Please share something that really works (or worked) for you in your career. It may be a game, a gimmick, a lesson, or a classroom management strategy. We have sent out a form to chapter presidents for members to complete. These ideas can be emailed to viatoretis@comcast.net or taken to state convention. We'll compile them, put them on the website, and notify our school districts of their availability to new teachers.

Finally, we still can donate to **The Schools for Africa**, a collaborative effort of DKG and UNICEF. Information can be found on the International website and contributions can be sent to Wanda Keller, PA Treasurer.

http://www.kintera.org/site/c.meJMIOOwErH/b.6118587/k.7FE7/Schools_for_Africa_Project.htm.

Let's make a difference for children and educators in Pennsylvania and around the world!

The following article is reprinted from The Keystoneian. We will be taking a chair to the State Convention from Psi Chapter. We will also be taking **the ideas you bring on the form below** for new educators.

Please fill out the form below and bring it to the May meeting or send it to Barb Clark before we go to Convention in June.

THANKS!



SEE – Support Early-Career Educators

Please use this form to share one idea (e.g. game, gimmick, classroom management technique, organizational strategy, technology usage, cooperative learning tool) which, having worked well for you, can be shared with an early-career educator. (Additional pages may be added, as needed.)

Name: _____

Chapter: _____

Level(s): Preschool Elementary Middle High School Higher Education

Subject Matter: _____

Title: _____

Minutes of Psi Chapter Meeting

Of Delta Kappa Gamma

March 15, 2014

Our morning began with a breakfast buffet at the Clarion Holiday Inn. The meeting was hosted by Brenda Brinker.

The meeting was called to order by President Allison Sayers at 9:10 AM. There were 29 members in attendance. A program was presented by former Peace Corps Volunteer, Brianna Reed who was stationed in Malawi from 2010 -2012. She discussed the mission, goals and training of the Peace Corps. She then spoke of the food, culture, dress, education, and aspects of village life in Malawi. She also talked about her primary and secondary projects. Her presentation was interesting and informative.

Celebrations and Chapter Support –

Barb Clark introduced her guest Chrissy Myers.

Dottie Hughes had her last treatment and is doing well.

Kathy Dinger had a successful knee replacement.

Nicole Werwie's baby is due soon.

Jennifer Keith's Robotics team from DAHS came in 3rd in North Dakota

Please remember Judy Perrin and her family in prayer as they are experiencing numerous health issues.

Pauline Wiberg is now residing at Laurelbrook Landing.

Purpose #6 – To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action – was discussed.

The minutes of the Oct.19, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

The treasurer's report was presented and accepted. A total of \$2,103.50 was raised at our October Ways and Means Event.

Initiation – Sue Olsakovsky from the Brockway Area School District was initiated and welcomed in to Psi Chapter.

Correspondence – Thank-you note was received from recruitment grant recipient, Carly Wallock. Notes of thanks were also received from Donna Anderson and the family of Eleanor Caylor.

Membership – Brockway teacher Christina Myers and Jeff-Tech school nurse Lesley Swintek were recommended for membership by Barb Clark.

Communications / Newsletter – Susan Wolfe will be helping Nicole Werwie with our newsletter.

SEE –Support Early Educators –

The PA Headstart Association has been chosen as the recipient of our state project. The One Chair, Two Chairs, Red Chairs, Blues Chairs project was discussed. Each chapter is being asked to participate by securing and decorating pre-school sized chairs to be taken to the State Convention.

As part of this year's international project an idea collection form will be sent to chapter presidents for members to complete. We are being asked to share ideas that have really worked for us in our careers. These ideas will be compiled and put on the website for new teachers to access.

World Fellowship Basket – was passed for collection.

Unfinished Business – A simple directory is being developed by Barb Clark.

Memorials are being planned for September's meeting for recently deceased members. Donations will also be made to honor these members.

New Business - The Founders Day Program has been moved to the May meeting.

For our Birthday Celebration, a motion was made to collect \$10 gift cards for our New Teacher Project. Motion carried. Members are asked to bring the gift cards to the May meeting.

State Convention will be held June 13-15 in State College.

The Raffle Basket for the convention will be a K-cup basket prepared by Jen Keith

Seminar for Purposeful Living will be held July 23-26 in Fort Wayne Indiana.

International Convention will be held July 28- Aug. 1 in Indianapolis Indiana.

Looking Ahead to the next Biennium – Barb Clark recently attended the president's training in State College.

A new rules committee will need to be formed.

The idea of a summer picnic that would include family was discussed.

Our retired lunch-bunch will meet April 3 at noon at Luigi's in DuBois.

We concluded with the singing on the DKG Song. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held Friday May 2, 2014 at 6:00PM in Brookville at Coffee Cakes.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin B. Swope