



Delta Kappa Gamma Chi Chapter April 2020 Newsletter

President's Message

Dear Chi Sisters,

I'd like to start by thanking all of you for your understanding of why we postponed our April Chi meeting and our Trivia Night. With the unknown challenges of the coronavirus, we felt it was in the best interest of our sisters to postpone our April events so that everyone would remain healthy.

I can't believe that the time has come to write my final message as President. Thank you for your trust and confidence in me to serve as president for such an accomplished group of women. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve for this biennium. You have all inspired me, motivated me, encouraged me, and supported me in countless ways throughout this journey and I feel truly blessed.

Thank-you to all members for your support during this past biennium and your involvement in our Chi Chapter events and activities. Our chapter accomplished so much because of the contributions of our members. A special thank-you to the executive board members - officers, committee chairs, and committee members, whose behind-the-scenes commitment and enthusiasm made our activities successful. I truly believe that teamwork has been a big part of what makes Chi so special.

Our last meeting for the biennium, to be held May 16, 2020, is special in so many ways. We will be installing our new President, Susan Fritz, 1st Vice President, Andrea Rutledge, 2nd Vice President, Marlene Reynolds, and Secretary, Brittany Bertoli. What a fantastic group of women and I look forward to their biennium! We will be honoring some of our Chi sisters for their years of membership and inducting new members. Currently, we are still working out the location of the meeting. Once we have finalized all the details, we will share the information. I look forward to seeing everyone at this meeting.

Consider attending our PA State Convention, June 12-14, 2020, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA. and/or our International Convention which is scheduled to take place in Philadelphia starting on July 7 and running through July 11, 2020. Information for registration is on the state website and in the Spring Keystonian. If you can not attend the full schedule of convention offerings, you might want to consider attending a one-day session.

Warmly,

Linda

PROJECTS

By Amy Smith

The Projects Committee and Chi sisters continue to connect with our community. At our February meeting, we were so pleased to have collected 350 books to donate to Mom's House in Lancaster. Upon delivery of the books, Dawn, their Data Specialist, greeted me with a smile and a grateful heart. She said she was so excited to help foster her love of



Chi sisters, Brenda Walker, Marj Paradise, Nancy Frederick, Chris Kowalski, Melissa Zipser, hold up some of the books that were donated to Mom's house of Lancaster.

reading with the children and mothers at Mom's House. She expressed how very pleased they were to have so many books to be added to their library and that we took the time to consider the mothers as well as the children. As she and I carried the books inside, she saw one and remarked that it was one of her favorites and looked forward to sharing this with the mothers. Thank you again for your generous giving to the children and mothers of Mom's House.

If you are wondering how you can help out more this year, Projects has two opportunities on the horizon. We will again be serving at the Ronald McDonald house on Sunday, May 17th. The sign-up genius will be sent out around May 1st.



Our volunteer opportunity at GAiN will be held on Saturday, June 20th and the sign-up genius will be sent out toward the end of May. We are making a difference with our time and resources. Thank you for making time to serve others in our community Chi sisters!

GRANT-IN-AID UPDATE

By Christine Kowalski

Our 2019 Grant-In-Aid winner, Abigail Isenberg, is currently working at Reading High School as a 10th grade Language Arts teacher. With the money (\$500.00) we awarded her, she was able to purchase all new supplies such as markers, crayons, and paper for the upcoming required projects created by the students. She also began building her classroom library by purchasing all new novels for their SSR time and book projects. She was very appreciative for the money which helped her as a first year teacher prepare her classroom for incoming students.



UPCOMING EVENTS

DKG Dates:

May 1, 2020 Deadline for Lucile Cornetet Award for Professional Development

June 12 - 14, 2020 PA State Convention, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA

PA Leadership and Professional Development Seminar, State College, PA

July 7 - 11, 2020 International Convention, Philadelphia, PA

July 12 - 16, 2020 New York City Getaway Tour after International Convention

Chi Dates:

***May 7, 2020** Chi Book Club at the Speckled Hen, Strasburg 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Book: *The Moment of Lift* by Melinda Gates

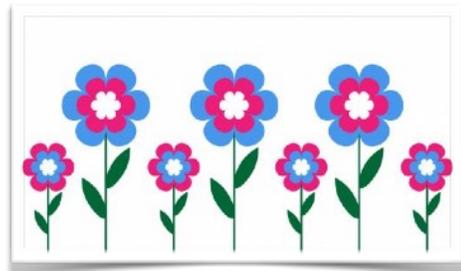
May 16, 2020 Chi General Meeting - TBA

May 17, 2020 Ronald McDonald House, 8:00 a.m.

***Change of date**

June 1, 2020 Due date for Chi Chapter Dues

June 20, 2020 GAiN Volunteer Event



CTAUN 2020

By Eileen Little

On February 28, 2020 several Chi sisters went to New York for the annual CTAUN conference. CTAUN is Committee on Teaching About the United Nations and is held annually in New York City at the United Nations. This year's theme was "War No More," and the conference was from 10:00 - 4:30.



There was a wealth of experts who spoke at the conference. The panel of speakers were split into several focus topics. The morning session had three panels titled, *Creating Peace: The Role of Civil Society and Women in Prevention of War and in Peace Processes; Peace Education and Transformative Education; New Technologies: Hypersonics, Artificial Intelligence, Drones, etc.* The afternoon session had three panels as well, which included included: *Women, Peace, and Security; Disarmament; and World Peace Through Law: Force of Law, Not the Law of Force.* Between panels there were interludes such as the Global Citizen Award, Excellence in Education Award, Poster Competition Awardees, a short film titled, "We Are Rising"; a message from United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and a video message from Ben Ferencz, Lead Prosecutor for Nuremberg War Trials. There were 673 people present in the audience representing many countries and age groups. It is a fantastic experience, and one often walks away on overload from so much information, great discussions and new thoughts to ponder. More information can be found at www.teachun.org

SNAPSHOTS FROM OUR LAST MEETING: FOUNDER'S DAY AND BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS! PROGRAM

Photos by Amy Smith



Michele Polinitz, Brittany Bertoli and Brenda Walker reading Founders' Day member biographies.



Melissa Zipser (left) reading the summary of the floral bouquet that relates to our Founders' Day.



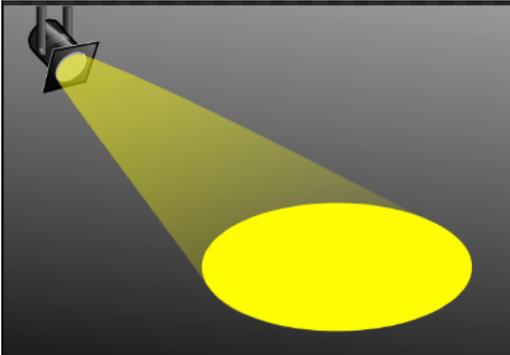
Sue Fritz (right) led the meeting.



Debbie Bridgewater (left) led us in a Kahoot game all about reading instruction and statistics.

SISTER SPOTLIGHT

By Susan Fritz



Our Seasoned Sister is a long-time resident of Lancaster County who was raised in nearby Columbia. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Family-Consumer Science and Child Development from Mansfield University and has a Master of Education in Elementary and Early Childhood from Millersville University. She is an Early Childhood Education instructor at the Lancaster County Career and Technology Center in Mount Joy. Her program provides educational experiences to high school seniors and adults with children ranging from infants through elementary school. In addition to 31 years of teaching, she has been active with professional organizations within the field as well as being a reviewer of professional books for Cengage Publishing and assessing test questions for the NOCTI National Test in Early Childhood that establishes students' competency when they complete the program. Lancaster County's United Way *Success by Six* and *P - 3* (prenatal through third grade) programs have benefitted from her expertise.

She is the wife of Brett and the mother of Brittany, an elementary school teacher in the Hempfield School District, and Brandon, who provides Behavior Support services in the Community Schools Program operated by Intermediate Unit #13. As evidenced by trips to Hawaii, Punta Cana, and Mexico, she loves the beach, sand, and sun. Each summer includes a vacation with extended family to Ocean City Maryland. She finds joy in cooking, entertaining, and spending time with family and friends. She enjoys helping people and describes herself as a "doer". Her first paid employment was after school in a dental office where she completed a multitude of tasks that ranged from receptionist duties, cleaning, and developing x-rays. Have you guessed that our Sister is Wendy Bertoli!!

CHAPTER SURVEY RESULTS By Susan Fritz

On behalf of the Programs Committee, (Susan Fritz, Kathy Kuzmiak, Kim Rineer, Gisele Siebold, and Melissa Zipser), thank you to everyone who completed the Chi Chapter Survey before it closed on January 31, 2020. As one of my pet peeves is completing a survey and not receiving the results, on behalf of the Programs and Chi Executive Committees, here are some of the findings from the survey.

We received 37 responses. The response/age range distribution is as follows

Age Range	Respondents
22 to 35	1
36 to 45	4
46 to 55	9
56 to 65	9
66 to 75	10
76+	3

Preferred days for meetings are Monday through Thursday (89%) and Saturday mornings (72%). Meeting times with 70% or greater agreement were Saturday 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. and Monday through Friday at 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Looking at preferences for having food at meetings, most people (23 yes versus 6 no) prefer a finger foods, snack, or desert bar option or not having food at all (16 yes versus 5 no). Having a buffet is split (14 yes and 15 no) while only 11 respondents prefer a sit-down dinner to 18 who do not prefer that.

Ten people preferred that all meetings be held at Millersville University, five preferred that location for two to three meetings, three preferred MU for one meeting, and one didn't want to meet there at all. Eight people had no preference. Comments indicated concern for having ample parking at any location that is selected and that being at Millersville creates less confusion and provides a beautiful setting and consistently good food. The rest of the comments generally favored Millersville but offered a willingness to consider other options.



Finally, there was near total agreement that time for socializing was an important aspect of chapter Meetings. Most comments indicated that there was enough opportunity built into the current format with time before and after the meeting. One person did suggest that we vary seating at least once a year so there is opportunity to meet those with whom we typically do not sit.

Stay tuned for more results and thank you again for your thoughtful responses.

DUES ARE DUE BY MAY 31!

By Marcia Trach

May may bring Spring Flowers, but it is also the month to collect your 2020-2021 dues! Deadline is May 31, 2020. The collection of dues in the spring was a change that started last year.

Active Dues are \$80.00.

This includes:

- International - \$40
- State - \$17
- Chapter - \$22
- State Scholarship Fee - \$1.00

Reserve member dues are \$35.00

This includes:

- International - \$20
- State - \$7
- Chapter - \$7
- State Scholarship fee - \$1.00



PRESIDENTIAL VISIONARY AWARD

By Gisele Siebold

Chi Chapter's Executive Board proposes the following additions to the chapter rules. The general membership will be asked to vote on this addition at the next general membership meeting.

XI. Awards

A. Chi Chapter's Presidential Visionary Award

1. The Chi Chapter's Presidential Visionary Award is continuing the legacy of leadership within Chi Chapter.

2. The monetary award will be given to an active Chi educator, the amount to be determined by the Chi Chapter's Presidential Visionary Award Review Committee in conjunction with the Executive Board, for

PRESIDENTIAL VISIONARY AWARD (CONT.)

By Gisele Siebold

personal growth, professional development or an item/items that will support educational excellence in her classroom or school.

3. The Review Committee will be comprised of Past Chi Presidents and the current Chi Chapter President as an ex-officio member.

4. The submission date for the application will be February 1st.

5. The award will be presented to the Chi member at the last chapter meeting of the year.

6. The past presidents will choose the next year's convener prior to closing the business for the year.

B. Recognition of Sisters Who Have Earned Their Doctorate

1. Recognition will occur yearly.

LOOK FOR GIFTS IN A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY

By Gisele Siebold

In a period of uncertainty when the light of hope is dimmed, our positive outlook lets us create, meet, and genuinely take in the world around us as a gift. There are golden nuggets to be found if we just allow ourselves to discover them.

Staying at home and learning to cope with unplanned, unscheduled time can be startling to those who rely on a scheduled daily calendar. Time is an element that gives shape to life events. We can learn to view time as a gift or a curse. Shifting our thoughts to feelings of gratitude can help us view unexpected time on our hands as a gift of the present moment when we can truly take care of ourselves.

Sit with each moment and simply be present. Breathe a deep inhale and slow exhale, and reflect upon the breath. Breathing renews and revives us. Bring to mind ways to meaningfully spend time. Listen and tune in to the

LOOK FOR GIFTS IN A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY (CONT.)

heart's calling; find within the self a sense of intuition about purposeful choices. Make decisions about when to accomplish required tasks and when to set aside time for enjoyment. Bring the energy of gratitude to everything you do.

Color with crayons, sketch with pencils, create with markers. Make homemade salt dough, and sculpt for fun. Read the book that's waiting to be opened. Put pen to paper, and write your life's story. Write notes to your students; remind them of their own positivity, compliment something they do well and make them laugh.

Connect with loved ones who live with you by doing puzzles, playing board games, looking at photos and sharing memories. Find ways to laugh together. Connect with loved ones farther away through phone calls, emails, and video conferencing. Hold those in the helping professions in your heart. Think positive thoughts about them and surround them with love.

Spend time in the outdoors and learn from nature. Go for a walk in the sunshine and receive a healthy dose of vitamin D. Listen to birdsong as well as the languages of insects and animals that live in the wild. Take time to dream.

Be still, and remember your own power. Do not allow fear to creep into your heart. The words of two of my beloved high school teachers empowered me then and continue to empower me now. Sister Anne James and Sister Irene Margaret each shared the same message with me when I was going through a challenging time, "The only way out is through, so you'll just keep going, with faith on your side."

May our resilience help us keep steady on the path that will lead us to reach for the highest good that can come to our minds and hearts. The only way out is through, so we'll keep going. As educators, we can and we will illuminate the light of hope. It's our gift.