



The Keystonian

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Key Women Educators

Official Publication of Alpha Alpha State PENNSYLVANIA

Alpha Alpha State

WOWS

Northeast

Regional

Conference

by Barb Clark, Tracey
Dusch, and Karen Ball



Thirty-five Alpha Alpha State members were in attendance at the Northeast Regional Conference in beautiful Traverse City, Michigan - including three first timers and four Past State Presidents - **Marion Miller, Terri Stetler, Carol Ulrich and Dr. Lyn Schmid.**

Even though you may not have been in attendance, your support of the Lucinda Pins and Afghanistan Teacher Training Project catapulted Pennsylvania to the TOP!! We are #1 in contributors for the 2006-2007 year and #1 since the inception of the Afghanistan Teacher Training Project. The top five for 2006-2007 are: #5 California, #4 Texas, #3 Illinois, #2 Florida, and #1 Pennsylvania! The top five for 2003-2007 are: #5 Connecticut, #4 California, #3 Ohio, #2 New York, and #1 Pennsylvania!

Fund raising was not the only thing Alpha Alpha State excelled in during the Northeast Regional Conference. **Haddie Weber** shared her talents at the piano during the opening General Session, while **Karen Ball** and **Terri Stetler** participated in the flag ceremony that opened the conference.

Performing with the Conference Choir during the Friday Celebration Luncheon and Saturday Presidents' and Founders' Banquet were **Sue Stamm, Ruth Althouse, and Barbara Rankin.**

At the luncheon **Dr. Irene Murphy** was recognized as a Past International President (in absentia). As **Dr. Lyn Schmid** (Immediate Past State President) extended the invitation to attend the 2011 Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, she introduced a special guest...Alpha Alpha State's own Hershey Kiss - **Barb Clark.** As Barb greeted the 500+ attendees, other members distributed Hershey candy. During Saturday's banquet **Marion Miller** was recognized for her fifty years of membership in the Society.

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President Carolyn and Dr. Lyn
share WOW moments at NERC

Alpha Alpha State President's Message

By Carolyn Sutton

Thank you, Alpha Alpha State members, for affording me the opportunity to represent you at the Northeast Regional Conference in Traverse City, Michigan. There were several 'WOW' moments for me and right up there

was the opportunity to spend time celebrating with Pennsylvania. You need to know that your work on the Afghanistan Teacher Project took the spotlight! You need to know that the members of the Northeast region are excited about coming to Chocolate Town, USA in 2011!! You need to know that your officers and *The Keystone* editor attended excellent training sessions led by the International President Dr. Barbara Day, International Parliamentarian Jean Gray, Executive Coordinator Corlea Plowman, Program/Membership Services Administrator Jill Foltz, Communication Services Administrator Jane Posten, and members of the International Leadership Development, Membership and Program of Work Committees. Read the article by Barbara Clark, Tracey Dusch and Karen Ball for more NERC details.

In this issue you will find the committees and officers for the biennium. Each of these sisters has wisdom to share and a passion to care. What a tapestry of teamwork!

The goals for the 2007-2009 biennium for Alpha Alpha State are:

■ Celebrate our heritage and legacy.

When Northeast Regional Director Laura Drake recognized Past President Marion Miller for her 50 years of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, I was reminded of the commitment, encouragement, wisdom and passion of our Alpha Alpha State members who truly live the mission statement.

■ Facilitate communication and connection with members.

At our August "crossover" meeting, your Executive Committee pledged to maintain the lines of communication among the committee members as well as with the local chapters. We need you to

inform us of your needs and share your ideas. We have a new webmaster, Tammy Miller. Tammy is experienced in the latest web design techniques and we can look forward to more information on the state website. *The Keystone* editor, Terri Stetler, needs your information to publish. Share your amazing stories; publish information about area meetings, joint meetings and upcoming chapter events. Our contact information is in this issue.

■ Increase membership involvement and participation.

If you have been participating in Delta Kappa Gamma events at the State and International levels, please plan to continue that tradition. If you haven't attended a state activity, now is the time to plan your participation beyond the chapter level. The opportunities are there. For example, you can volunteer to be on a committee, present a workshop, facilitate a workshop, man a focus table, bake cookies, sing in the chorus, play a musical instrument, teach a craft at the arts retreat, or attend an area meeting.

■ Enhance training opportunities for chapter officers.

We want to increase the number of incoming chapter presidents who attend the pre-convention Chapter Presidents' Training offered by the Leadership Development Team. It is important that we pass the "rose" by teaching chapter members the organizational structure and traditions. In the corporate world this is called "cross training." International President Dr. Barbara Day refers to this as "latticing." Preparing young members to lead must be a priority of all chapters. Our state organization leaders have already identified the merits of lattice leadership. Dr. Lyn Schmid received training

Continued on page 6.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Connections

By Louann Shrader
Alpha Alpha State Membership Chairman

Congratulations to the 27 Alpha Alpha State chapters who met the challenge of **Membership Explosion**. These chapters brought in 4 or more members during the first year of the 2006-2008 International biennium. For the chapters who may only initiate once a year and whose initiations may have occurred before the challenge to chapters was announced, the good news is that the opportunity to work towards **Membership Explosion** and recognition at the International Convention in Chicago still exists. The initiation of 4 or more members for a total of 8 new members including reinstatements from 2006 to 2008 (the International biennium) will earn recognition at the International Convention in Chicago. If half of these new members initiated during the 2006-2008 biennium have no more than 3-10 years experience, additional recognition will be given to the chapter.

Once new members become initiated, prepare to meet their expectations in order to create active involvement in the chapter. Active and involved members not only continue the legacy of the chapter but also create a 'forward moving ever' chapter. Nurturing, personalizing, bonding, mentoring, and retaining are ways to promote active Society members. A key aspect of each of these ways is constant Society communication with members. Communication may be the sharing of knowledge of the history, traditions, and achievements of the Society at all levels. Communication may be an awareness of the programs and projects of the Society at all levels. Communication may be recognition of honors and achievements of its members at all levels. Communication may be the sharing of information of special events and opportunities at all levels of the Society. Communication may be a simple buddy system to keep in close contact with each member in bringing them to meetings or relaying Society information to them. Communication may be assuming the role of caregiver for others, new initiates or members who are seeking to become more active, as we mentor them into assuming an active role in the chapter and Society. Constant communication fills the expectations of members and leads to membership connections.

Remember, too, communication is a two-way street. Receiving information is as important to effective communication as transmitting information. Active communication involves listening. Listen to find out if members' expectations are being met. Listen and seek

to identify members' needs and goals and share how the Society is able to help them reach their goals. Listen to and encourage members' ideas. Listening to members identifies and shares their interests and expertise, which in turn can lead to effective planning and programs. Listening not only identifies potential programs and projects but also can identify the potential of leadership within the chapter. As Oliver Wendell Holmes remarked, "It is the province of knowledge to speak and the privilege of wisdom to listen." Using constant communication fosters membership connections.

As we continue to embrace the International Theme of "Leading with Wisdom and Passion" place membership growth, goals, and expectations in the forefront as you encourage and support each member's commitment to the goals and purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

★Congratulations!★

Membership Explosion Kudos

Kudos to the following chapters who met the criteria of Membership Explosion by bringing in four or more chapter members during the first year of the biennium: **Epsilon, Theta, Lambda, Nu, Xi, Upsilon, Psi, Sigma, Tau, Alpha Zeta, Alpha Lambda, Alpha Mu, Alpha Nu, Alpha Xi, Alpha Omicron, Alpha Rho, Alpha Sigma, Alpha Tau, Alpha Phi, Alpha Omega, Beta Alpha, Beta Gamma, Beta Iota, Beta Omicron, Beta Pi, Beta Rho, and Beta Sigma.**

Double Kudos to the six chapters who met all criteria for Membership Explosion and brought in four new members half which have 3-10 years experience! These chapters are:

Upsilon, Sigma, Alpha Lambda, Alpha Xi, Alpha Omicron, and Beta Gamma.

President's Schedule

September 22, 2007 - Pi Chapter's 60th Birthday Party, Wellsboro, PA
October 12-13, 2007 - Membership/Expansion Committees Meeting
October 20, 2007 - Pittsburgh Area Meeting, Monroeville, PA
November 16, 2007 - Tau Chapter's 60th Birthday Party, Bear Creek, PA
November 29-30, 2007 - 2008 Alpha Alpha State Convention Planning Meeting
November 30-December 1, 2007 - Leadership Development Committee Meeting

PROGRAM OF WORK

By Susan Stamm, 1st Vice President/Program of Work Chair

In the March/April issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma News*, International President Dr. Barbara Day focused on her Key Initiatives. Her #1 key initiative is about the Membership Explosion. Chapters are urged to initiate at least eight new members during the 2006-2008 biennium, half of whom should have no more than three to ten years of experience. Then in the last issue of *The Keystonean*, your newly elected Alpha Alpha State Membership Chair Louann Shrader urged chapters to create a Membership Implosion to insure continued and active involvement in the Society.

Now you may be wondering what this information has to do with the Program of Work Committees. You are an important link, leader and manager on your chapter team to let all members know how important they are to the Society. Here are some points for you to consider as you fulfill your role as Program of Work:

■ **Getting to know as many members as possible is a key component to open communication lines.**

Building closer relationships to members is an important quality. When asked the question, "Why do you attend meetings at all Society levels?" most members answer that it's the relationships they have cherished over the years.

■ **Stephen Covey's *Principle-Centered Leadership*, Chapter 11 "Thirty Methods of Influence" is an excellent resource for positive interaction with others.** Covey identifies three basic categories of strategies for influence:

1. To model by example
2. To build caring relationships
3. To mentor by instruction

Covey suggests "Prepare your mind and heart before you prepare your speech." How leaders present themselves in a positive, cheerful and pleasant manner may be as important as the material they are presenting. Excitement is catching, so leaders should be excited about their commitment to the job.

So you see, you should keep the members before you in all your program planning.

RESEARCH REPORT

By Cynthia Kramer, 2005-2007 Research Chairman

The Alpha Alpha State Research Project was placed on display for the Info Fair at the Northeast Regional Conference.

The Program/Membership Services Administrator, Jill Foltz, and the International Research Chairman, Dr. Beth Richey, reviewed the project and requested the use of it for next year's International Convention. Headquarters is very interested in the membership growth patterns using the project data for Alpha Alpha State.

MEMBERSHIP EXPLOSION: A Chapter Challenge

1. Is the chapter profile helpful?
2. Has it lead your chapter in new directions to find members?
3. Has your chapter grown?
4. If your chapter profile is incorrect, please send corrected data to the new Research Chairman, Monique Lautenschlager. (See directory on page 11 of *The Keystonean* for contact information)

Please note for chapter records and research chairman the name of the school district for all new initiates therefore data can be continuously updated for all.

ATTENTION

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Please check the Alpha Alpha State website.



Evaluation forms for *The Keystonean* Editor, Treasurer, and Webmaster are now online.

Each chapter is assigned a position to evaluate each year. Instructions, duties and responsibilities, chapter assignments and evaluation forms are under Evaluation Forms on the website.

Please complete your evaluation form by December 1, 2007. Submit to:

**Wanda Keller
830 Fernwood Place
Johnsontown, PA 15905**

Forms may be submitted electronically or in the mail. Chapter presidents will only receive their assigned forms in the mail if they do not have an e-mail address in the directory.

Contact Wanda if you have any questions. (See directory page 9 for more contact information)

PROGRAM OF WORK

COLLABORATE - CONNECT - COMMUNICATE

By Judith L. Schaffer, Professional Affairs Chairman

The Professional Affairs Committee on all levels - international and state - urges chapters to practice the 3Cs - COLLABORATE - CONNECT - and COMMUNICATE in their dealings with new teachers. Question - Can you name someone classified as a new teacher in your district? (NEW is considered working as a 1 to 5 year beginner in the profession). Did you know -- 25 percent of new teachers leave the profession within the first three years of teaching; 30 percent leave within their first five years nationally? Delta Kappa Gamma members can help retain novice teachers by sharing their professional expertise, by providing guidance and by offering emotional support as these educators master their craft.

Collaborate to form a **connection** within your district and begin **communication** with a new teacher!

Attracting and retaining teachers is one of the biggest challenges schools face today. Experienced Society educators-current, former, retired-mentor, guide, coach and support classroom teachers to help students learn. What could your chapter do?

- Become part of an established mentoring program.
- Meet with local administrators to discuss the needs of new teachers.
- Share materials such as bulletin board decorations.
- Work directly with students in the classroom.
- Assist with research and other paperwork.
- Provide someone to talk to, i.e. A Teacher Hot Line.
- Develop your own chapters' innovative idea.

Communicate to any Professional Affairs Committee member what your project ideas are, so that they can be shared with others. Start small to ensure success. Share your plans with the administrators involved before implementation. Build in flexibility to allow for adjustments as the project evolves. Meet the challenge of the Collaborative Connections Project through your chapter's own unique approach.

The www.deltakappagamma.net website page under International Professional Affairs will provide information, supplementary materials and other websites to consult as your group plans and undertakes its project. Beginning in April 2007, look for the quarterly on-line newsletter with Collaborative Connection Project ideas and materials to download.

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PERSONAL GROWTH AND SERVICES

By Nikki McWilliams, Chairman

As your state Personal Growth and Services Committee begins a new biennium, we want to offer any assistance we can extend to our fellow chapter members. Our Committee's responsibilities are related to Purposes I, VI, and VII of the Society: I. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship; VI. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action; VII. To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

Our International Personal Growth and Services Committee is emphasizing lifelong learning through the arts and literature. Ideas for programs in these areas can be found in the resource guide *Passion for Learning: the Essence of Growth* which may be ordered from International Headquarters. Ideas for meetings could include something as simple as a reading of poetry to whole programs such as book discussions or "how to" programs on such things as scrapbooking, making jewelry, journaling, etc. Relaxation with the arts can be a wonderful destressor in our busy lives.

Your 2007-2009 chairman for state Personal Growth and Services can be contacted at:

Nikki McWilliams
38 Morning Song Lane
Grove City, PA 16127

STATE COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

By Donna J. Houser, Chairman Visual and Performing Arts Committee

Greetings Sisters,
I'm excited to serve as your 2007-2009 Alpha Alpha State Visual and Performing Arts Chairman. Grace Schauer, Pi Chapter, did a fantastic job as chairman and leaves me with very big shoes to fill. I recently retired as a music educator from the Cumberland Valley School District, Cumberland County. I continue, however, to teach violin and piano in my home studio and direct a hand bell choir at a church in Carlisle, PA where I reside with my husband. My hobbies include scrapbooking, photography, reading and traveling.

My expectation for each chapter in Alpha Alpha State is for you to integrate music in a variety of ways at every meeting. Music inspires us, unifies us, centers us and calms us. Here are a few suggestions:

- Start each meeting by singing at least one song from the Delta Kappa Gamma Song Book VI or the Alpha Alpha State Song Booklet. Learn a new song at each meeting. Accompany your singing with a keyboard, guitar, autoharp, band/orchestra instrument(s) or purchase the recorded accompaniments from Delta Kappa Gamma. Perhaps you could even invite a student to accompany your singing.
- Use music for your special ceremonies such as Founder's Day, birthdays, installations and remembrances. Recommended songs for these occasions

are on page 102 in the Delta Kappa Gamma Song Book.

- Create a chapter chorus or ensemble to lead your singing or to provide special musical presentations at meetings.
- Coordinate singing a song(s) with your program topics - multicultural, environmental, occupational, folk, Broadway, patriotic/war.

The next *Keystonian* issue will feature ideas using arts and music for projects and programs.

CREATIVE ARTS RETREAT

WOMEN IN THE ARTS

April 25-27, 2008

"Country Place"

White Haven, PA 18661



Mark your calendars now because you don't want to miss this popular event. Many exciting activities and workshops are being planned. Due to the popularity and growing attendance at our arts retreats, we have contracted a larger facility. The Arts Retreat Committee is very excited about this new venue.



From the Treasurer

The 2007-2008 Dues and Fees remain at:

Active - \$31

(\$30 Active dues +
\$1.00 Scholarship Fund)

or

Reserve - \$16

(\$15 Reserve dues + \$1.00 Scholarship Fund)

New Address and Phone:

Linda O'Connor
1 Winding Drive
Gettysburg, PA 17325
717.337.0342

President's Message Continued from page 2.

from Carol Ulrich and her officers; Lyn has provided learning opportunities for me.

I find myself to be only one slat in a lattice interwoven with former officers, former committee members, and individual active chapter members. This support is what Janice H. Moen, International Music Representative, had in mind when she wrote the words for the song entitled, "The Lattice of Leadership." The refrain says what I am trying to describe perfectly.

*Crossing over, weaving under,
Side by side our minds have met.
Crossing over, weaving under,
Side by side we're stronger yet.*

Your Alpha Alpha State Officers and Committee members are eager to serve you in the work of the Society.

Tapestry- Weaving Positive Change Within the Heritage of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society

By Patricia A. Shedlock, Alpha Alpha State Corresponding Secretary

A New Biennium Begins

Amid a spirit of collegiality and excitement, the Executive Committee of Alpha Alpha State gathered at the Holiday Inn Express, Williamsburg Square, State College, Pa. on August 3-4, 2007 for the initial biennium organizational meeting.

President Carolyn Sutton welcomed everyone by thanking them for sharing their gifts, their time, and commitment to the Society. Alpha Alpha State President Carolyn gleaned much from her State President's training and promised that she had "Wisdom to Share." The theme Carolyn has chosen for the 2007 - 2009 Biennium is "TAPESTRY-Weaving Positive Change Within the Heritage of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International."

The meeting opened with a "let's get acquainted" session. In keeping with the Northeast Regional Conference (NERC) theme - "Wisdom to Share, Passion to Care," President Carolyn invited board members to share the name and location of their chapter, their state position, and a passion from their personal life.

We then moved on to "Postcards from Traverse City, Michigan and the Northeast Regional Conference." Attendees at the conference were asked to share a postcard highlight- A WOW moment from the conference. Highlights included: Officers' training, the announcement of Pennsylvania as the top state contribution (\$22,000) to the Afghanistan Teacher project, participating in the opening flag ceremony, recognition of Past State President, Marion Miller, as a fifty-year (50) member of the Society, serving as workshop presenters and facilitators, attending meaningful workshops, participating in talent night, visiting Mackinac Island, lunching at the Grand Hotel, and visiting the Grand Traverse Lighthouse. Immediate Past State President, Dr. Lyn Schmid, stated that we as Pennsylvania key women educators continue to make significant contributions to The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Parliamentarian, Suzanne Long, presented the challenge. Quoting Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, "We write our own destiny; we become what we do," we were reminded that our Society founders were risk takers and activists in their professions and in founding the Society. Our founders were determined to leave the profession in a better state than when they began. *Our challenge: to love each other, laugh with each other, cling to traditions such as the birthday luncheon, do not reject the risk of change and concentrate on preserving the future.*

The meeting continued with the sharing of the following Committee Expectations:

1. Look to the Delta Kappa Gamma Mission Statement, the Seven Purposes and the biennium goals as a common thread in your committee work.
2. Look to International as a resource which is there to serve you and to help you understand the role of your committee.
3. Plan a workshop for Chapter counterparts to be presented at State Convention.
4. COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE.

Looking ahead to the 2011 NERC in Hershey, Pa., Royce Boyd, Chairman of the Planning Committee stated she will work with International on a timeline and details for the conference. We need to be creative in finding ways to fund this event. Royce and her committee intend to involve all the states of the Northeast Region to participate in sharing the duties of the conference.

The Committee Chairmen and officers had time to enjoy a box lunch and exchange information and materials.

The afternoon session began with "Weaving a Tapestry of Teamwork." President Carolyn shared her 2007 - 2009 biennium goals. (See President's Message on page 2 of *The Keystone*)

Together we look forward to strengthening the "Lattice of Leadership" as we strive to weave threads over and under into a beautifully designed tapestry interlacing the fabric of the state leadership team, International resources, and chapter members.

RULES COMMITTEE

The Rules Committee wishes to remind chapters that **October 1** is the deadline for submitting any suggestions for changes in the Alpha Alpha State Bylaws and Standing Rules. These changes could be additions, deletions, or wording clarification. Please send your suggestions to Rules chairman:

Jeannette Thomas
3321 Buchanan Drive
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
717.361.4045
dandjthomas1@comcast.net

Also, the Rules Committee will be continuing to ask chapters to send us copies of your Standing Rules. If you have not submitted your completed copy as yet, please do so as soon as possible.

Northeast Regional Conference Continued from page 1.

A variety of workshops were available for members to increase their knowledge of education policy, justice and equity; excellent educational practices; global issues; leadership; and life long learning. Dr. Lyn presented her workshop on Servant Leadership, was a member of the Task Force on International Committee Society Structure, and was a panel member discussing State Leadership. Many Alpha Alpha State members were facilitators for various workshop leaders.

Part of the excitement of attending a regional conference is soaking up the local color. Tours offered the opportunity to travel to locales with a knowledgeable guide. Many members toured Mackinac Island with lunch at the Grand Hotel, Leelanau Peninsula, Downtown Friday Night Live in Traverse City, and the Turtle Creek Casino.

Other fun times were provided by the Talent Show in which our own Barb Rankin told the story of "Prinderella and the Cince." Our new State President, Carolyn Sutton, presided over the camaraderie of Pennsylvania Night at the Sweetwater Bistro in the resort. The revision of the Pennsylvania Night Standing Rules was led by Pat Shedlock. The Alpha Alpha State Men's Auxiliary was founded by Rick Dusch (husband of Tracey Dusch), and he hopes to increase membership next year in Chicago.

Along with Society-organized fun were individual shopping trips for cherries (Traverse City is the Cherry Capital of the World), anything made with or about cherries, Petosky stones (only found in northern Michigan), fudge and of course the obligatory T-shirt/sweatshirt.

If you were not in Traverse City, we look forward to seeing all of you for the International Convention in Chicago in 2008. Make plans now!!



Afghanistan Award Recognition -(L-R) Dr. Lyn Schmid, Phyllis Hickey, Kate Weber, Karen Ball, Tracey Dusch



Haddie Weber, pianist



Sue Stamm shares PA Research at the Info Fair



Karen Ball and Terri Stetler participate in flag ceremony



Barb Rankin



Louann Shrader



Pat Shedlock



Pennsylvanians join the sing along



Barb Clark, the Hershey Kiss



Wanda Keller and Ruth Althouse

How sweet it will be...the NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE coming to Hershey, PA in July, 2011! See page 18 for the latest information on this event! Be a part of it!!!



THE LEGISLATIVE LINK

By Patricia Kardambikis, Ph.D.

As the new US Forum Liaison, I wanted my first article to be an overview of the mission and goals of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and then provide the members of Alpha Alpha with information and links to federal and state legislation. This liaison would like to focus on issues of concerns affecting women's health, children and education. With this stated, areas of interest will include; educational funding, especially full funding for all federally mandated programs, such as No Child Left Behind (NCLB); funding of research and educational programs affecting women's health, such as breast cancer and heart disease; the Repeal of the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset and spiraling health care costs, including prescriptions; and the Family Medical Leave Act.

The US Forum plays an integral role in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in the United States by:

- Serving the interests of members that reflect the purposes and mission statement of the Society, with emphasis on sharing information and ideas that explore solutions to common problems.
- Advocating for children, women and families and quality education by implementing programs and practices that enable change and improvement in social institutions, systems, legislation, and practices affecting them.

Goals for the 2006-2008 US Forum that this liaison would like to meet include the following:

1. Expand communication from the Forum to all levels of the Society
2. Gather input from members to identify key issues of concerns
3. Provide members with information regarding pending state and national legislation
4. Explore networking opportunities with organizations of similar purpose

Breast Cancer Hospitalization Bill - Important legislation for all women.

There's a bill called the Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act of 2007 (S.459/H.R.758) that will require insurance companies to cover a minimum 48-hour hospital stay for patients undergoing a mastectomy. It's about eliminating the "drive-through mastectomy" where women are forced to go home hours after surgery against the wishes of their doctor, still groggy from anesthesia and sometimes with drainage tubes still attached. While

some patients may choose a shorter stay, this choice should be one in which both the doctor and patient concur.

Lifetime Television has put this bill on their web page with a petition drive to show your support.

<http://www.lifetime.com/breastcancer/petition/signpetition.php>. This action takes about 2 seconds. Please pass this on to your friends and family, and on behalf of all women.

No Child Left Behind - It's Time for a Change

According to the National Education Association (NEA), it is now time to improve the No Child Left Behind law, (NCLB), the current version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). NCLB is up for reauthorization this year, and NEA is asking Congress to make three fundamental changes in the law so that it works for children.

1. Use more than test scores to measure student learning and school performance.
2. Reduce class size to help students learn.
3. Increase the number of highly qualified teachers in our schools.

Get the Latest Legislative News from NEA

Read NEA's weekly update on the status of federal legislation that affects students, schools and educators. Education Advocate Online can be sent to you from the NEA by going to www.nea.org/lac then click on "join our E-mail list"

To find contact information for all of Congress plus info on bills: www.congress.gov.

Congressional Leadership 2007 House:

Speaker: Nancy Pelosi (CA)

<http://speaker.house.gov/contact/>

Majority Leader: Steny Hoyer (MD)

<http://www.majorityleader.gov/contact.cfm>

Other Legislative Links:

The House and Senate have their own home pages that provide large amounts of information on members, committees, the legislative process, e-mail addresses and more. Senate home page: www.senate.gov. US House home page is: www.house.gov

Voting records of members of Congress are available through THOMAS, a website operated by the Library of Congress at:

www.thomas.loc.gov.

Children's defense Fund Update:

www.childrensdefense.org

League of Women Voters: www.lwv.org

American Association of University Women:

www.aauw.org

Legislative Resources for Teachers

Source: Thomas (Library of Congress)

Classroom Activities, Lesson Plans, and Primary Sources

CHAPTER NEWS

ALPHA PHI TEACHERS NOMINATED FOR EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Alpha Phi Chapter and West Mifflin Area School District have a lot to be proud of this year. Two of their elementary teachers were nominated for excellence awards.

This year the Mon Yough Area PTAs elected **Mrs. Sharna Baker**, a third grade teacher at Homeville Elementary School in the West Mifflin Area School District as their Teacher of the Year. Sharna is a new initiate of Alpha Theta and was honored at a Mon Yough District dinner.

Mrs. Elizabeth Denny has been nominated for the Teacher Excellence Award in Pennsylvania. She was the only teacher from West Mifflin to progress to the final one hundred nominees this school year. Mrs. Denny teaches second grade at Homeville Elementary School and has been a member of Alpha Phi since 2002. The dinner honoring those nominated for the Pennsylvania Teacher Excellence Awards was held at the Carnegie Music Hall in Pittsburgh, PA.

Submitted by Simone Miller

EPSILON

The Epsilon Chapter is definitely flourishing. During the year of 2006-2007, Epsilon has initiated 8 new members. Due to the large number of ladies, it was difficult managing schedules; however, Kathy Barton, Cathy Devers, Mary Roberto and Brenda Miller were initiated in October 2006. In December, Andrea Wickes, Marlene Buchner and Diane Paulina were initiated. Linda Shoop, a former member of Upsilon Chapter, transferred her membership to Epsilon.

This year the Epsilon sisters worked on fund raising for the Mary Lee Cunningham Scholarship. With rising costs of college education, the chapter wants to maintain the annual \$1000 scholarship. With that in mind, the members held an "International Auction" during their Tri-Chapter Meeting held in April.

Epsilon members hand-crafted many items for the auction, including a Vera Bradley look-alike purse, a baby quilt, a wreath, baskets of goodies, a homemade pie in a Pampered Chef dish, and a variety of gift cards.

Submitted by Deborah Wright

ALPHA THETA



Alpha Theta members collect items year round for HAVIN (Helping Abuse Victims in Need), a local shelter for abuse victims. Member Sandy Deforno, who is guidance counselor at Elderton High School, and sponsor of the National Honor Society, involved her students in packing shoeboxes with the items collected by

THETA



Theta Chapter welcomed seven new members in the 2006-2007 biennium. Initiated into the organization in November, 2006 were **Sally Rifugiato**, **Renee Sunder** and **Traci Castro**. (photo left) Sally is the principal at Beechwood Elementary School in Pittsburgh. Renee Sunder, who attended Beechwood as a student, now teaches first grade there. Traci is currently teaching at Allderdice High School in Pittsburgh. Both Renee and Traci are former Delta Kappa Gamma recruitment grant recipients.

At Theta's 60th birthday celebration in May 2007, we welcomed four retired teachers as new members. **Sharon Schurman**, **Ilene Lesser**, **Nancy Mell** and **Norma Ratti** (photo right) were inducted in an elegant setting atop Mount Washington, which afforded a stunning panorama of Pittsburgh's three rivers. Theta Chapter is pleased to be able to call these proven women educators valued members and friends.

Submitted with photos by Janice Ballinger



Delta Kappa Gamma members. The boxes are packed and labeled for children, teens, adults, males or females. Member Carolyn Gallagher wraps the shoeboxes to make them more colorful and appealing. The partnership of the honor students and Alpha Theta Chapter provides needed assistance to HAVIN and a good experience in community service for all involved.

Submitted with photo by Kathy Walters

The editor regrets that several chapters' photos saved on my download manager were lost when my computer crashed!

CHAPTER NEWS

ALPHA PI CELEBRATES 50 GOLDEN YEARS

Members of Alpha Pi proudly celebrated 50 golden years as a chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in May of 2007. After a lovely luncheon, Dr. Veronica Kochinski, chairman of the Research Committee, gave a most interesting presentation paralleling past events of U.S. history with Alpha Pi events through each decade.

Charter member, Elizabeth Sipe, was honored by the group and she graced the chapter with one of her lovely poems.

President Janet Paterra was also commended for work with the Research Committee in gathering and organizing Alpha Pi history.

We also presented our Dr. Lillian Fehr Education Grants of \$1000 each to three outstanding education majors who are entering their senior year in college. The winners are Amy Castello of Scott Township, who attends Ohio University; Emily Eyrolles of Pleasant Hills, attending California University of Pennsylvania, and Erin Twerdok of Upper St. Clair, attending Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Lillian Fehr, a former Pittsburgh public school teacher and member of Alpha Pi, left an endowment to the chapter, which allows it to give these education grants each year. Dr. Fehr's endowment, along with a bequest from Marian Banks, a former Keystone Oaks teacher and principal, have allowed Alpha Pi to give over \$55,000 to many charitable organizations which benefit children and homeless folks in the Pittsburgh area.

Submitted with photo by Dr. Veronica Kochinski and Joan Wylie



ALPHA NU

This year in Bucks County, Alpha Nu members thrive on the concept, "It is better to give than to receive." Continuing the chapter tradition of its annual **Write-Read-Write** project, member Linda Deis rounded up students from Holland Middle School in the Council Rock School District to penpal with Book Buddies in the chapter. Just in time for Christmas delivery, Alpha Nu members returned holiday wrapped book purchases based on student interests discovered in the initial correspondence. Students then wrote one more time with a book review of the gift text.

Another chapter giving effort is under the guidance of Ruth Graves, who coordinates meal preparers and servers for the local Red Cross Homeless Shelter residents. While the first two projects are on-going yearly events, new additions allowed for greater opportunities. Members provided donations to two different food pantries in the southern and northern ends of the county in a fall and spring canned goods drive conducted at our October and March meetings. This new service initiative was coupled with another chapter first, a mid-winter clothing and accessory drive with donations for the Dressed for Success program, a community service agency that provides workplace attire for women transitioning from welfare to work.

Teachers helping readers, women helping families in need, professionals reaching out to women in the workplace...It is Alpha Nu's good fortune to find so many ways to give.

Submitted with photo by Kathy Simmons



Peggy Diefenderfer is all smiles organizing donations for the Quakertown Food Pantry.

THETA



Theta Chapter was thrilled to be able to award recruitment grants to a record number of applicants. Eleven women students were awarded grants to assist them in their pursuit of degrees in the field of education. The recipients were (take a deep breath!) Kelly Crooks, Jessica Downey, Amanda Juarin, Lauren Klingensmith, Camilla Lober, Amanda McCarthy, Carmen Miksic, Jennifer Miller, Regina Pallota, Christy Scott and Katherine Womack. The awards were presented during the *Calendar Daze* Benefit held at beautiful Nevillewood Country Club. Raffles, book and bake sales, an auction, and many bountifully-filled seasonal baskets helped raise the funds for next year's grants.

Submitted with photo by Janice Ballinger

CHAPTER NEWS

ALPHA THETA

Alpha Theta members spent a beautiful summer afternoon poolside at their annual picnic held at the home of President Kathy Walters. The weather was delightful and the food was delicious, but more important events took place after lunch!

Special guests at the picnic were Jodi Coy and her family. Jodi, an eighth grader at Elderton High School, went to dance classes compliments of Alpha Theta members. Jodi performed in costume the numbers she did in her June recital. Another guest was Mary Johns, Jodi's instructor and owner of Center Stage Dance Studio in Ford City. Mary received the "Red Rose Award" for unselfishly tutoring Jodi's dancing.

Alpha Theta members then enjoyed revealing their "Secret Sisters" for the past year. All were delighted to discover who had been sending treats and surprises all year! The "Big Reveal" was great fun for all!



Alpha Theta members (L-R) Connie Powers, Michele Rothwell and Charlene Savona make Linus Blankets

The rest of the afternoon was spent making "Linus Blankets" for pediatrics patients. Dozens of warm and colorful blankets were made by Alpha Theta members who had a good time doing it together!

Both activities at the picnic supported two Alpha Alpha State projects - "Expect a Miracle" and former project "ABC Quilts." Alpha Theta members are very proud of their contributions to worthwhile projects impacting children.

Submitted with photo by Kathy Walters

ALPHA XI

Alpha Xi Chapter enjoyed a successful year with many exciting events and look forward to new challenges in the coming year. We met at Johnston House on May 5 and welcomed ten new members: Christine Croker, first grade teacher; Sandra Hueston, reading specialist; Mary Milarski, first grade teacher; and Sara Strzempek, elementary art teacher - all from the North Hills School District. Paulette Hemmings, English teacher/reading specialist from the Avonworth School District; Carol Scott, Science teacher from the Pine-Richland School District; Linda Dahl, Spanish teacher in the Shaler School District; Paulette Hemmings, English teacher/reading specialist from Mt. Lebanon School District; Melissa Kelly, Writing Clinician and Molly Wetmore, Special Education teacher in the Mt. Lebanon School District; Darlene Thurner, retired math teacher - Pine Richland School District. Following the initiation ceremony, we enjoyed a delicious high tea. Our members met the challenge of the "membership explosion."

Recently Alpha Xi members enjoyed the unique program of the Women's Drum Circle presented by Heidi Kohne of the North Hills School District. Approximately sixty-five members and guests took part in the drumming and experienced Heidi's innovative method of encouraging people to participate in music. A great time was had by all!

Phyllis Jenny, Alpha Xi President and Melody Hannegan, Past President, attended the Southwest Regional Conference in Oklahoma City, July 11-15.



Drum Circle participants (L-R): Karen Klingman, Jessica Friedrich, Melissa Marangon, Aleta Lardin, Carolyn Pettit, Susan Frantz

Initiation photo: (L-R) Sara Strzempek, Paulette Hemmings, Molly Wetmore, Darlene Thurner, Carol Scott, Mary Milarski, Sandra Hueston, Melissa Kelly, Christine Croker, (missing- Linda Dahl)

Submitted with photos by Phyllis Jenny



HISTORICAL MOMENT #2

Pioneer Women

For the first 50 years of Alpha Alpha State, certain women, most who were not members of Delta Kappa Gamma, were recognized for distinguished service in their fields. A section of the booklet commemorating our first 25 years described the contributions of 26 "Pioneer Women," as they were called. Among these first special women were teachers, librarians, and principals, who were leaders in the promotion of many innovations in education. Some of these innovations included phonics, foreign languages, speech therapy, education for women, music, and guidance to name just a few. One such woman was Anne Chapel. Warren Academy, a men-only school, was built in 1832. In 1932, a young woman named Anne Chapel came to this all-male school to assist the principal. By 1937, just five years later, she had convinced the school to admit women and give them almost equal rights. She had a true pioneering spirit.

In the 50th Anniversary Booklet, nineteen "Pioneer Women" were honored between 1963 and 1966. Their distinguished service was not only to education, but in other areas also. For example, Miss Lenore Trimble was recognized for her service as a nurse, and Mrs. Winifred Kitchen served two years in Turkey with the Peace Corps. Pauline Frederick, who was an Alpha Alpha State and Delta Kappa Gamma International honorary member, was a pioneer in the field of radio and television. She was also a foreign correspondent and NBC News United Nations correspondent. She, too, was a true pioneer.

The last mention of "Pioneer Women" was made in 1966. The history of how these women began their relationship with Alpha Alpha State is almost lost. However, a book titled *Pioneer Woman Educator: The Progressive Spirit of Annie Webb Blanton*, by Debbie Mauldin Cottrell, may give us a clue to the mystery of the origin of this distinction. Is it possible that at the beginning of our Alpha Alpha State Organization, this title of Pioneer Women was begun in honor of Annie Webb Blanton? What better time is there, than at our 70th birthday party, to recognize and honor the pioneering spirit in those who preceded us, those who surround us now, and those who will lead us in the future. We are Delta Kappa Gamma...Forward Moving Ever.

Further research has found some interesting information. In the 1950's and early 1960's Alpha Alpha State had a State Committee for Pioneer Women. Also, in an obviously old, but sadly undated pamphlet entitled, *The Pioneer Women Teachers' Project of Delta Kappa Gamma* it says, "Delta Kappa Gamma has had for a number of years committees at work in each state whose purpose is to select and honor outstanding women teachers by preparing biographies for publication. In several states, Delta Kappa Gamma has published these biographies in book form; in other states some of the biographies have been printed in local newspapers; and in other states the Society is hopeful of having the biographies published as a book or booklet."



NERC Notes

By Royce Boyd,
2011 NERC Coordinator

Watch this space in *The Keystoneian* for updates regarding Alpha Alpha State's progress in planning and executing the 2011 Northeast Regional Conference (NERC) in Hershey, PA.

To date some important decisions have been made. Barbara Tobias of Nu Chapter has agreed to be the conference treasurer, and Candace Claar of Alpha Beta Chapter will be the registrar. A contract has been signed with Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. The dates have been set for **Wednesday, July 20 to Sunday, July 24, 2011**. Remember, **TAKE 5** days and spend them in Hershey with Delta Kappa Gamma.

Many chapters and individuals have already volunteered their participation and these assignments will be forth coming. A project of this size requires service from all Alpha Alpha State members. Be thinking about how your chapter's talents can best be utilized to assure the success of this conference.

OOPS!

From the Editor...

The photo on page 13 of the 2007 summer issue of *The Keystoneian* was incorrectly identified. The Psi member shown with Lucinda Yates is Donna Shultz.

AREA MEETINGS



Art In The Park

Western Pennsylvania Chapters, Zeta, Lambda, Alpha Theta, Alpha Omicron, and Alpha Sigma held their biennium 5 Chapter Area Meeting on August 14, 2007 at Union Area Elementary School and Scotland Meadows Park in Union Township, New Castle. Sisters participated in Arts and Crafts Workshops including beeswax ornaments, cross stitch, dancercise, scrapbooking, wreath making, frame decorating, and scarf décor. Workshops were presented by sisters of the attending chapters and friends.

Following the workshops, a catered picnic was held in the park. Alpha Sigma sisters hosted the event and provided dessert specialties. Alpha Alpha State President Carolyn Sutton spoke to the group about state and International initiatives. Presenters donated pieces of their artwork for a Chinese Auction. Profits from raffles, the auction and workshop fees were donated to Alpha Alpha State's Visionary Fund.

Submitted with photos by Stephanie Fulena

Naylor Winery Tour

On Friday, August 3, 2007, 32 Delta Kappa Gamma members and their guests met for a York/Lancaster Area Meeting at the Naylor Wine Cellars in Stewartstown. Sisters of Beta Beta, Eta, Chi, Omega, Beta Delta, and Beta Gamma enjoyed a relaxing afternoon of fellowship at the Naylor Vineyard where Mr. Naylor took them on a tour of the facilities and lead them through a wine/cheese tasting experience. An added bonus to the day was Mr. Naylor's memories shared about his boyhood school days.

Submitted with photo by Marion Young



In Memoriam Continued from page 20

her chapter. In addition she attended many conventions and conferences. Kathleen was a Social Studies teacher.

Esther Campbell

April 8, 2007

In 1948 Esther was initiated into Alpha Zeta as a charter member and was the last charter member to survive. She was a loyal chapter member. Esther taught for many years in the Athens School District.

Annette Deis

April 14, 2007

Annette was initiated into Alpha Nu Chapter in 1975 and served as chapter treasurer. She taught at the elementary level and started the gifted support program in the Morrisville School District. She was also instrumental in organizing science fairs in the district.

June Hoyet

May 20, 2007

In addition to serving as Alpha Theta's president (1980-82), June served her chapter on all committees. She was a committee member at the state level and attended many conventions and conferences. For forty-three years, June taught history, science and social studies in the Armstrong School District. She received the Outstanding Educator in America award in 1973-74. She was dedicated to teaching and was respected by colleagues and students. June also earned a degree in theology and was a minister.

Ethel Dargatz

May 29, 2007

Ethel became a charter member of Nu Chapter with her initiation on July 6, 1947 and served as its president from 1970-72. She taught English in Lebanon Valley High School from 1939-64. From 1964 until her retirement in 1976, she served as Guidance Counselor for the South Eastern School District, York County. In addition to being an educator, she was also active in the United Methodist Church, American Association of University Women, Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, and several other organizations.

NOTE: Please send notification of members' deaths to State Membership Chairman, Louann Shrader. (See Directory page 9 in this issue for contact information)

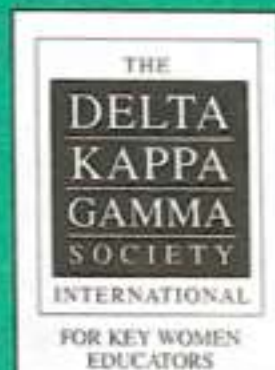
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DIRECTORY ISSUE

Please retain the Alpha Alpha State Directory (pages 9-13) for future reference.



promotes professional and
personal growth
of women educators
and excellence
in education.

DEADLINE FOR THE KEYSTONIAN November 1, 2007

In Memoriam

Margaret Shumaker

May 28, 2006

Margaret was a dedicated member of Alpha Theta Chapter for nearly fifty years and served on many committees. She was Supervisor of Specialized Curriculum and Administrator of Special Education and Adult Education for the Armstrong School District. In 1969 Margaret was named Outstanding Educator of the Year by the local Jaycees; and in 1992, she was inducted into the Ford City Hall of Fame.

Dora Boario

September, 2006

Dora was initiated into Alpha Theta Chapter in 1959 and was a loyal member. She served on numerous committees as a member of the chapter. Dora was a Reading Specialist in the local school district and a dedicated educator.

*Every good life
leaves behind the
fiber of it inter-
woven forever in
the work of the
world.*

John Ruskin

Glenna Mae Wood

November 25, 2006

Glenna was a dedicated member of Alpha Theta Chapter for over forty years and served on all chapter committees from the time of her initiation. She attended many conventions and conferences. Glenna was the Chairperson of the English Department at Ford City High School where she also taught eleventh grade and Honors English. In addition, she was a member of the Armstrong Country Historical Society and of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Kathleen McCoy

March, 2007

Kathleen was initiated into Alpha Theta Chapter on January 22, 1955 as a charter member. She was devoted to The Delta Kappa Gamma Society and served on every committee in

Continued on page 19.