



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

ALPHA Zeta Chapter
Spring 2014 Newsletter

A Final Thought

Spring is here, I say kind of tongue in cheek as I see snow pellets falling on my lawn. I am not going to let those few pellets and the prospect of sitting through my grandson's baseball doubleheader in low forty degree temps this afternoon dampen my spirit. What's an extra pair of long johns or a third or fourth blanket in comparison to hearing the crack of the bat or watching a player just narrowly slide into third base.

Spring is supposed to green our surrounding not continue to be cold and bare. Just like Kermit the Frog once said, "It's not easy being green." Spring has the tough job of curing us of our winter blues and transporting us to budding flower gardens, green lawns, and days of sun and warmth that we have been expecting. We sometimes count it as a failure because we expect it to bring all our senses to life with the turn of the calendar but many times we are too busy to notice the subtle way it is happening. Take a moment to use all your senses and **hear** the peepers from the nearby stream or the geese passing overhead, **feel** the sun shining on your back and hands as you go for a walk. **View** the small buds exploding on the trees, **smell** the fresh air after a rain shower or **taste** the freshly boiled maple syrup or maybe some dandelion greens. Spring should teach us patience. We can't always see the beauty of it in a day or even a week but it will come through.

Look around your classroom and see the obvious signs of spring, the lighter jackets, the baring of legs, the mud caked shoes, the migration of early dismissal for sporting events, just to mention a few. Take a moment in the hectic ending of school to notice all the things you brought to life in your students this year. That student that you never thought would sit still for five minutes now has a good attention span, the idea of writing a complete sentence is normal to many with both capital letters and punctuation marks and the concept of higher math is beginning to be second nature to them. You brought their "senses" together somehow. You've been the long winter and now you are the promise of spring to them. You can now watch them continue to grow and delight in their beauty. Applaud yourself for your patience and effort. Look beyond the test scores and see all you have taught them and delight in your accomplishments.

For those of you retired, enjoy the season that you are experiencing. Continue to grow and flourish. Continue to reach out to others and know that you are still appreciated for your abilities and talents.

I want to thank each of you for being the Spring in my journey as your president. I appreciate your support and getting to know many of you better.

Naomi



We are glad to welcome home our members from winter vacations. Below are comments from some members on their winter adventures.

We just returned from a golfing vacation in Los Vegas where we had the opportunity to visit courses surrounded by desert beauty. The school facilities were impressive, especially for sports such as soccer, lacrosse and baseball. Visiting with a young teacher who wanted out of the classroom (North Carolina) he came to NV to coach soccer stating the teachers are NOT paid very well. A “gated” school was on our travel route owned by the billionaire, Sheldon Adleson so Jewish students can remain true to their heritage. They are required to study Hebrew language and traditions. You may recall on the news that there was a conference of top GOP leaders held in Los Vegas last week. Adelson, who owns The Venetian and The Sands, hosted the conference. Funny thing, right after he supported Leslie Graham for the Senate a bill was brought to the floor banning “online gambling” as immoral. SIGH. Another educational highlight of the trip was the 6 story public library. The list of events offered here would make your head spin; not to mention the fabulous collection of every type of media. GOLDMINE! The wild burros didn’t seem to mind our encroachment of their territory as we Hiked the Red Rock Canyon. They came out to curiously observe us as if roles were reversed and they were the people gawking at animals in a zoo. The only drawback to the trip was leaving beautiful NV and the warmth of the Southwest. Kids and pet cat were happy, though. Barb Pulver

While folks were freezing in PA, My husband and I chose to do a little cruising in the Caribbean. In January, we were on the Country Music Cruise with Vince Gill, Kenny Rogers and many more country music artists. All of the entertainment on the ship was country music. In February, we cruised with the Oakridge Boys. In our travels we visited Grand Turk, San Juan, St. Maarten and St Thomas. My kind of retirement!

Connie Burlingame

In late December, Lee Ann Wolfe and Marilyn Ayers were surprised to get word that a student they had in the Towanda schools in the late 70s wanted to talk with them. John Dixon went on to become an English teacher near Philly and quit a couple years ago to become a full time writer. He told them that his first book was being published by Simon Schuster, *Phoenix Island*, and hitting the stands Jan. 7. On the same day, the CBS TV series "Intelligence" was premiering and he had sold rights of his book as its basis. When John attended the thrill-writers convention in NYC in 2012 with his book draft, agents were all over him. He is a talented writer who will go far, and is writing the sequel to his book now. Few writers can say that their book is made into a TV program before it even hits the stands.

John graciously sent Lee Ann and Marilyn signed copies of the book. He thanked them for their help and encouragement in launching him on this writing career. They are given credit in the acknowledgment section, so they are in print. If you like action-packed stories, you need to get this page turner.

This all serves to remind us that everything that we say and do will have an impact on lives. We don't realize what most of those consequences are this side of heaven, but it's nice to hear some positive feedback.

Thanks!



Sharing Information

Hello Fellow DKG Members,

Delta Kappa Gamma U.S. Forum supports non-partisan federal legislation in the interests of education and women educators. Its purpose is to provide U.S. members of DKG with relevant information on pending issues and legislator contact numbers to enable more effective advocacy. Since I am the Alpha Alpha State U.S Forum Education Legislation Representative for this biennium, I will be sending information to you as I receive it from Carmela De Marco, US Forum Northeast Regional Representative and Angela Bedenbaugh, U.S. Forum Connections editor.

. Our responses to this information can and does cause action in Congress. Five constituent contacts cause a Congressman to pay serious attention to an issue.

--Regina Campbell, Phi Chapter, Alpha Alpha State (forwarded by Carimar Partican)

Dates to Remember: (forwarded from Kay Stuart)

Lucile Cornetet Individual Awards		May 1, & Sept. 1
RSVP for Alpha Alpha State Choral Retreat		April 25, 2014
Alpha Alpha State Choral Retreat	Middletown, PA	May 2&3, 2014
Alpha Alpha State Convention	State College, PA	June 13 – 15, 2014
International Convention	Indianapolis, IN	July 28-Aug 1, 2014
Purposeful Seminar	Lancaster, PA	Sept. 26 & 27, 2014 (note change)
Creative Arts Retreat	Ludlow Manor, Olmstead, PA	March 27 & 28, 2015
2015 Alpha Alpha State Convention	State College, PA	June 12-14, 2015
2015 NERC	Baltimore, MD	July 8 – 11, 2015
2016 International Convention	Nashville, TN	July 5-9, 2016



I hope to see many of you at our meeting in Eagles Mere on April 12, 2012. Although the actual meeting doesn't start to 10:00 we will have a Executive Board meeting at 9:00 and committee meetings at 9:30 as well as Chorus practice. This is the first time for Alpha Zeta Singers this year so we are hoping that many of you will join the chorus. Thank you, Olynda for heading this.

We will conduct on Installation ceremony for new officers. Your attendance will show your support for them. Thanks you Pat S. for conducting the ceremony.

June has prepared a program entitled **Alpha Zeta Past, Present, and Future**. Thank you June.

Please see you binder for time and details



Happy Birthday

Thanks to the committee headed by Shirley Allis that prepared a delightful birthday celebration for us. Many members commented to me on how much they enjoyed seeing video form our fifty birthday celebrations. It was nice to see old friends that are no long with us and remember the role they played in our chapter.

It was a special treat to have four sisters from our mother chapter Pi (Kay Stuart , Grace Shauer, Sue Ransom) and one from our daughter chapter (Rebecca Place) with us and to hear the role DKG plays in their life.

Along with those sisters mentioned in the presentation as members of the Album of Distinguish there was also Mildred Wright in 2002 and Virginia Hough, Marcella Hyde-Smith and Vicki VanNoy in 2008.



One Chair, Two Chair, Red Chair, Blue Chair

Holly Keegan and Clair Waldmeyer volunteered to create our chapter's chair for the state project to raise money for Headstart Programs. After being on display at State Convention in June it will back in our chapter next year where we hope to raise money by selling raffle tickets on the chair at each meeting. The winner will be selected at the Spring meeting. If you have other ideas about how to raise funds for this project let someone on the Executive Committee know.



Chapter Basket for State Convention

Your help is need in filling our basket for State Convention. Our theme this year Is Little Creatures. The Executive Board was thinking butterflies or lady bugs but use your imagination and see what we come up with to put in the basket. There are many items out there which celebrate the little creatures that surround us. You can bring your items to the April meeting or send it to the Initiates tea.



Initates Tea

This year's initiates tea will be May 15th at 5:00pm. We will be meeting at St John's Lutheran Church in Sayre. The address is 207S Hopkins Street. Remember that if your school nominated one of the new initiates the person who signed their application should bring them to the tea. If that person is unable to attend please see that someone else comes in your place. Don't expect these ladies to come alone. All members are invited to attend if they wish.

Hope to see many of you in Penn State on June 13-15 for State Convention.