



The Keystonian

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Key Women Educators

Official Publication of Alpha Alpha State PENNSYLVANIA

Lancaster: The Little Town That Changed a Nation

by Louann Shrader



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Purpose #6: To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.

With our mission as our guide and the purposes as points on our compass, Alpha Alpha State DKG sisters descended upon the Marriott at Lancaster's Penn Square for the **2014 Purposeful Seminar**: a seminar that took us to the edge of a living history experience.

From the weekend's beginning and through the interaction of 'period presenters,' we were transformed into the past and became eye-witnesses to a history that changed our nation. The workshops and tours offered to those in attendance developed the theme of the seminar. The one room schoolhouse got new meaning as we looked at what it took to teach in those days. (If you thought Little House on the Prairie made it look so simple, look again. After reviewing a test given to become a teacher, I wonder how long I would need to study to try to pass it!)

(see Lancaster page 5)

Are You Planning to Attend the 2015 Creative Arts Retreat?

by Grace Schauer

It's finally here! The 2015 Alpha Alpha State Creative Arts Retreat is on the books with new and challenging workshops, new presenters, and of course a few of those just for fun and enjoyment hours. Expect to be pampered on Saturday night with Pat Arnold and her staff of experts. I hope your chapter will take the challenge and join us for a great adventure in the north western part of our state of McKean County. It will take some planning, but I know that you can do it. We **(See Olmsted page 5)**

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**Are You Empowered
Through
Membership
in DKG?**

by Kay Stuart

Empowered Members know they have a mission to fulfill. Ours is “*The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*”

Empowered Members welcome new ideas and new way of fulfilling our mission.

Empowered Members focus on creating changes to help the chapter grow and discard practices that stunt chapter growth.

Empowered Members engage others in doing the work of the Society. They do not have to do it alone!

Empowered Members may experience nervousness, but do not allow that feeling to stop them from taking on leadership positions or getting involved at conventions, seminars, and retreats.

Empowered Members spread genuine spiritual fellowship to members and non-members alike.

Empowered Members understand the need to take care of themselves. Personal growth is vital to keeping the energy level needed to help others.

Empowered Members celebrate the differences of our sisters and are grateful for their own gifts and talents.

Empowered Members are clear about the vision of our Society, “Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide”.

Empowered Members believe we can achieve more, increase membership, act locally, and impact globally. They are more optimistic than pessimistic.

Empowered Members commit to professional development opportunities, even after retirement.

Empowered Members honor the past, but live in the present, experiencing the joy of membership today.

Empowered Members give empowerment to other women, inviting them into membership.

Are you an Empowered Member?



*Engage
Equip
Empower*

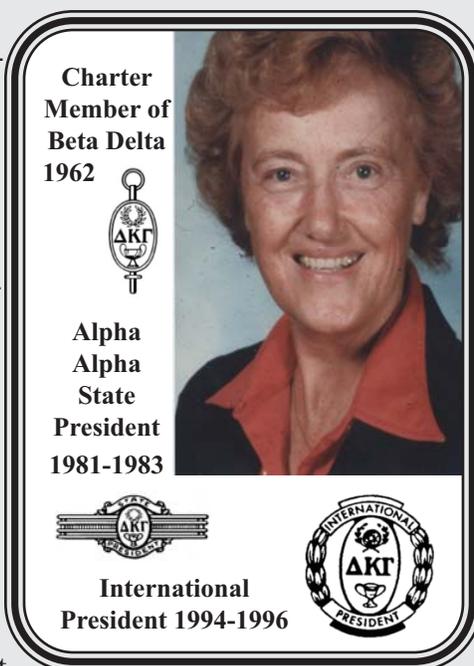
Remembering . . . by Linda Clark, Beta Delta

Dr. Irene Murphy ~ A Georgia Peach Who Came to Teach in Hanover, Pennsylvania

I first met Irene when she was still Mrs. Murphy, the Reading Supervisor for South Western School District. Enthusiastically, she helped teachers how to best teach students to decipher words, and to love reading! How proud I was when she became International President of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, helping more teachers and students around the world. But, she was still our Irene. She remained a loyal member of the self proclaimed “Bag Ladies of South Western,” the term we developed to describe those of us who carried our work bags from building to building throughout the district as we taught our special subjects.

Over the years Irene struggled with a variety of dreadful cancer diagnoses, illnesses that would have devastated other working professionals. However, she always persevered. She proudly showed an inspirational album that held those treasured cards and get-well messages she received from DKG Sisters from around the world. Despite her illnesses and awesome responsibilities, Irene always took the time to help her friends who were dealing with medical issues. She was a wealth of information on this dreaded disease of cancer. Often she came to work dressed to the nines with her wig

on her head, dealing with cancer through strength and humor.



Years after her retirement, I mentioned at a Delta Kappa Gamma meeting that the librarians were being pulled from their scheduled classes to cover for classroom teachers when substitutes were not available. Irene immediately signed up to be on the substitute teacher list, not just for librarians, but for all subjects. She accepted the most difficult positions that other substitutes refused. And she continued her battle with cancer as she continued to teach.

As a member of Irene’s Beta Delta chapter, what wonderful times we all shared at the Murphy cottage. Serenely situated in a lovely woods by a tran-

quil stream, we planned and celebrated many DKG events over the years. But years pass, and lives change. As a resident at Homewood at Plum Creek Retirement Center, I recall her distress that her only pair of shoes was on her feet, and her entire wardrobe fit in one tiny closet. How well anyone who attended DKG events can recall Irene’s amazing wardrobe! Her health issues were finally causing her circle of life to diminish.

I will never forget the last time I saw Irene as a patient at Homewood at Plum Run nursing facility. She was sharing a room with a woman who was literally on her deathbed. As relatives came to visit her, many mistakenly thought that I was part of their family. As I explained that I had come to visit Irene, one man said, “Oh, you must be sisters.” To which Irene replied, “Yes, we are Sisters.” I could hear the capital S as she spoke.

That Georgia Peach who came to teach in Hanover, Pennsylvania deeply touched my life, and she continues to live in the hearts and minds of other educators around the world.





The Time is N.O.W. Nominate Outstanding Women

by Barbara Gasperini, 2nd Vice President/Membership Chair

Where can you find them? How do you keep them? Try promoting the Society at a new teacher orientation and explain what DKG is all about. Highlight “awesome” program meetings and invite perspective members to attend. Get the message out that membership in our Society is a benefit; not just another check to write. Your chapter could prorate dues for new members. A little at a time can help those on a budget.

Host a luncheon during an in-service day to introduce the teachers to DKG. It will provide teachers with a free lunch and the time to learn about us. Take several members to meet and greet and to answer questions. By establishing a relationship you can take the initiative to invite them or not.

What are the benefits? It allows advancement into leadership roles. They could earn scholarships, a huge benefit of being a member. Another benefit would be to provide opportunities to apply for grants to attend conferences. It opens up networking with other educators on chapter, state, and international websites, as well as Facebook, and Twitter. Make women aware of DKG who have never heard of us and get them clear on the purpose of our organization. Try for more publicity in the community by sponsoring an activity, like a golf outing, or by buying an ad in a program booklet.

How do we keep members once you get them? Make meetings more fun, unlike the usual faculty meeting. Active teachers may find after school meetings difficult to attend because of

family or children. Weekend activities may be more appealing. Stress that you would love to see them for any part of the meeting. Consider some sort of childcare while at the meeting by using high school students needing time volunteering for community service credit. Give these students some form of payment. They will be grateful and so will the members. Keep meetings at a reasonable length and consider flexible times. Start and stop meetings on time. Members need to be able to tell husbands, sitters, etc. when they will be home.

Take a survey of members and get ideas about what interest them. Follow through by planning activities that new members suggest. Use “Ice Breakers” so everyone gets to know new people. Members come back when people know who they are. Hand applications for scholarships and grants to the members not just tell them about it. Call individual members if they miss a meeting so they feel important by knowing that they were missed. Use name tags to help reinforce names and faces.

Always remember to reach out to reinstate those outstanding women who have left for various reasons. Invite them back because they were “Key Women Educators” and still are.



New Initiates



Alpha Zeta
Maurine Gehring
Amanda Jenkins
Amanda Malanoski
Susan Serfass
Stacy Wagner

Alpha Upsilon
Mary Jo F. Davis
Cynthia L. Lemon
Jennifer J. Motosicky
Michele L. Pacek
Barbara J. Summers
Victoria Nania-Nowicki

Birthday Chapters

Happy 70th Birthday to...

Epsilon Chapter	April 7, 1945
Zeta Chapter	April 7, 1945

Happy 60th Birthday to...

Alpha Theta Chapter	January 22, 1955
Alpha Iota Chapter	March 19, 1955
Alpha Kappa Chapter	April 16, 1955
Alpha Lambda Chapter	June 4, 1955

Happy 40th Birthday to...

Beta Omicron Chapter	May 10, 1975
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(Olmsted from page 1)

have heard from many members who have already gone to the Olmsted Manor Retreat Center in Ludlow and have raved about the experience. Accommodations are as good as any hotel and they say the food is worth coming for. Get your reservation in soon because time goes fast and you don't want to forget where you put the Winter *Keystonian*. **March 6 is the deadline for registering. See you there.**

Turn to page 8 for the Creative Arts Retreat Registration Form and listing of Workshops.

(Lancaster from page 1)

The Massacre of the Conestogas presented by author Jack Brubaker brought the inhumanity of everyday life in the 1700's to our doorstep... a grim reminder that even today tragedy repeats itself. As our country grew, the 1800's brought new challenges to everyday life. Meeting Thaddeus Stevens, his housekeeper Lydia Hamilton Smith, and Harriet Lane, niece of James Buchanan, gave us a bird's eye view of politics, culture, and fashion of the day.

The Saturday tours too were equally impressive. Some opted to do the historic Lancaster walking tour while others visited James Buchanan's home at Wheatland and a Civil War Encampment. Some went to the historic Fulton Opera House, considered to be the nation's oldest continuously operating theatre and one of only eight theatres to be named a National Historic Landmark while

others opted for a visit to a one-room schoolhouse. Choosing the tour to take was difficult as each was a window to the past. The icing on the cake though was our trip to the pit, an archeological dig found while excavating for the new Marriott on the site of the home of the Thaddeus Stevens. The artifacts found in addition to the location of cisterns became proof to investigate more fully the fact that Thaddeus Stevens' home, himself a known abolitionist of the day, was a stop on the underground railroad.

After Sunday breakfast, we were treated to the fashions, culture, and the expected social graces of the day...our transformation complete! The weekend was much more than anyone expected.

(A special thank you to the ladies of Chi Chapter for all their help in planning a wonderful weekend in Lancaster. No stone was left unturned.)

2015 Album of Distinction

The Educational Excellence Committee is preparing for the 2015 State Convention and is asking all chapters to submit names for the 2015 Album of Distinction. Candidates for this recognition must be active members of Delta Kappa Gamma and have received an honor and/or award for service outside the Society. The honor and/or award must have occurred between April 1, 2014, and April 1, 2015. Applications can be found on the Alpha Alpha State website. Click on the Awards/Applications tab at the top of the page to find the form, the evaluation criteria, and the scoring rubric. All applicants must tie their honor and/or award to one of the Seven Purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Applications are due by April 1, 2015.

**Please forward the application to Karen Prince, 89 Griffin Road,
Stoneboro, PA 16153. Applications may also be emailed to Karen Prince at
kkprince@windstream.net.**

State Officers and Committee Chairs Met in Carlisle

The Alpha Alpha State Officers and Committee Chairs met in Carlisle, PA, on August 8-9, 2014, to plan for the 2014-2015 year.

Following a reflection by Carol Hartley, highlights from International Convention in Indianapolis were shared, including information from various training workshops.

The 2014 State Convention evaluation report was presented by Dee Stegeman, Convention Coordinator. There were 91 evaluations returned this year. Attendees were inspired by the keynote speakers and workshop presenters. The music was highly praised along with our choral director. Suggestions from the evaluations on workshops and other items will be given to the appropriate committees as they plan for the 2015 State Convention. The Convention Planning Committee will meet on December 4-5, 2014.

In the treasurer's report, Wanda Keller reported that our books were with the accountant for review, but everything seems to be in good order. Travel insurance was approved by the Finance Committee. The accident insurance covers travel

related to society business, and would include committee chairs, members of committees, and officers.

With the passing of beloved member, Dr. Irene Murphy, it was decided that undesignated donations in her memory would be sent to the Golden Gift Fund. She was an early recipient of this honor, and encouraged many others to apply.

Reviewing updates from the International Convention, President Kay acknowledged, with pride, that Dr. Lyn Schmid was duly elected our International President. She also revealed plans to build a closer bond with our Puerto Rican DKG Sisters. PA Chapters would establish contact with a Puerto Rican member and interchange ideas on doing society work. By getting to know each other on a personal level, a bond of spiritual fellowship and support will be built.

Tracey Dusch, 1st Vice President, gave an update on the Purposeful Seminar. She gave a huge thank you to Chi Chapter for tremendously assisting with the planning of the seminar.

Updates on the Nancy Grove Visionary Fund were shared. There will be a grant of up to \$500 for innovative ideas in the classroom. Grant applicants must be currently teaching. The past presidents will determine how the grant applications will be evaluated. The rubric for the evaluation will be put on the website and the application deadline will be February 1st. The award winner will be announced at the Celebration Luncheon.

All Committees reported on their progress during first year of the biennium and discussed plans for their work during the upcoming year. Some will meet face-to-face, and others will meet using Go To Meeting. The Strategic Action Committee (ad hoc) has completed the task assigned to them and a motion to dissolve this committee will be made at 2015 State Convention. Review of the progress of the State will be done by the officers.

Complete meeting minutes can be found on the state website under the "About Us" tab.

*Submitted by Candace Claar
Recording Secretary*

Who will be the next Alpha Alpha State Achievement Award Recipient?



In the fall issue of the *Keystonian*, you were prompted to begin the process of nominating a member who has given distinguished and outstanding service to the Delta Kappa Gamma Society. Her leadership, enthusiasm, and hard work have promoted the purposes and the policies of the Society. You have had your first chapter meeting and perhaps you attended the wonderfully planned Purposeful Seminar in Lancaster where our committee distributed a brochure as a reminder. So now is the time to get serious and complete the paperwork to nominate a deserving, dedicated Alpha Alpha State member. Helpful hints are listed below and more details are on the website.

Remember: this award is a surprise so all paperwork should be completed secretly.

Criteria

- >Active member of Alpha Alpha State
- >Minimum 10 years of state membership
- >Served in a major leadership role for her chapter and contributed to chapter committees
- >Served in two leadership roles for Alpha Alpha State
 - ~ Consultant or leader of seminars/workshops at the state or international level
 - ~ General chairman/co-chairman of state convention activity/regional conference or international convention
 - ~ State/regional/international committee chairman or state officer
- >Endorsement of her chapter's or an other chapter's executive board

See further guidelines at www.alphaalphapa.com

Previous Nomination

If you nominated a member in the last five years who was not selected, you need only to complete the addendum form (from the state website) to activate her nomination for 2015.

Purpose

To recognize and honor a member who has given distinguished and outstanding service to Alpha Alpha State and has promoted the purposes and the policies of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

**Nomination Deadline is:
March 15, 2015**

Committee Members:
Carol Hartley, Chi, Chairman
hartleys00@gmail.com
Karen Ball, Psi
Joan Glass, Delta
Diana Leppo, Omega
Cindy Reynolds, Beta Rho
Patricia Shedlock, Nu

**PLEASE KEEP ALL NOMINATIONS CONFIDENTIAL.
WE WANT THE RECIPIENT TO BE SURPRISED!**

2015 Creative Arts Retreat Registration Form

March 27, 28, 29, 2015
Olmsted Manor
Ludlow, Pennsylvania

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City & Zip _____
 Chapter: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Roommate _____

I have special dietary needs. Please specify:

What is your expected time of arrival on Friday?

 I have difficulty climbing stairs. _____
 I will need a handicap room. Yes _____ No _____

Registration begins at 4:00. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. * Select one of the following.
 _____ I will be eating dinner at 6:00.
 _____ I will be arriving late but would still like dinner.
 _____ I will not be eating dinner there.

Please indicate your registration preference. *
 _____ Private room- \$180.00
 _____ Semi- Private - 2 queen beds - \$155.00
 _____ Handicap room - 2 queen beds - \$155.00
 _____ 1 night only registration - \$100.00
 _____ Saturday Only Registration- Includes 2 meals- \$50.00

If staying only one night, Friday or Saturday?

Registration includes, meals, snacks, room, workshops and activities. *Some workshops require a small donation for materials.

Make checks payable to: **The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.**

* Mail check and Registration Form by **March 6, 2015** to: Doreen Weaber
 2000 State Drive
 Lebanon, Pa. 17042

717-274-0378 <tweaber@comcast.net>

* OR register online at <www.alphaalphapha.com>
(When registering online don't forget to send a check to the above address.)

Friday

Registration begins at 4:00. Dinner at 6:00.
 There will be Quickie Crafts with Greta Marie, Danette and Heather before dinner and Game Night with Kay and Barb at 8:00.....you won't want to miss this!!

Workshop Selections: **Circle Your Choices**

Saturday

8:30- 9:30 Braided Bookmarks Follow the Beat	1:30- 3:30 Hyperfuta Pots and Fairy Gardens Exploding Boxes
8:30- 10:30 Toothbrush Rugs Deco Mesh Wreaths	1:30 - 4:30 Mahjongg
8:30 - 11:30 Pillowcase Dresses	2:40- 3:40 RWYS- Rock out With Your Sisters
9:40- 11:40 Envelope Album Paper Marbling	2:40- 4:40 Landscape Painting Basket Weaving
10:40- 11:40 Light Touch Relaxation	3:50- 4:50 Share a Book Review and Discussion
12:00- 1:00 LUNCH	5:30-DINNER
1:00 - 1:15 Creative Arts Retreat Group Photo	7:00 - Let's Get Pampered Party!
1:30 - 2:30 Afternoon Walk Doodle Therapy	

(Continued page 9)

Sunday

9:00 - Reflections

10:00 - BRUNCH

11:00 - Departure

Workshop Descriptions

Exploding Boxes Carolyn Sutton, and Betty Grossheim - A “magic” box for any occasion. It is a paper box that is designed so that the sides cascade outwards as the lid is removed. Using a theme, embellishments, photos, a bit of bling, you will create a unique way to present a gift. Participants need to bring scissors, crafting double sided tape and photos. If you have a paper cutter bring it along.

RWYS Kay Stuart and Friends.
Rock out with your sisters. No judges. No costumes. Just lots of fun as you learn the latest dance craze: “The Alpha Alpha Roll.” Be ready to move a little and giggle a lot and prepare to teach others this line dance at State Convention 2015.

Braided Book Mark Carol Lane.
Each participant will make a decorative braided bookmark that looks difficult but is very simple. The bookmarks are made from paper and require a few simple folds and some easy scissor cuts. No talent is required. Join the group and enjoy the adventure of making a fun project that lasts a long time.

Follow the Beat Grace Schauer.
Rhythms are simple and fun and can add a new dimension to any music or story. Come explore with me.

Light Touch Relaxation Norma Mateer.
Come to this session to relax and learn about calming, meditative techniques for tension relief and relaxation. Unlike massage, recipients remain fully clothed. We will hear about the origins of Reiki (ray-key) and practice some simple exercises together.

Doodle Therapy Carol Lane.

Doodle Therapy is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful designs by drawing structured patterns. It increases focus and creativity along with an increased sense of personal well being. All ages and skill levels can enjoy this art form.

Basket Weaving Susan Williamson.

We will be weaving a small Wall Pouch Basket with Indian Curl accents. This is a beginner level basket and no prior weaving experience is needed! The basket measures approximately 4 inches by 2 inches by 4 1/2 inches high (plus handle). Participants should bring an old towel, a small flat head screwdriver, sharp scissors, small spray bottle, 10 spring type clothes pins, and a pencil. ***Cost for the materials will be \$10.00.*** Limit of 10 participants per workshop.

Deco-Mesh Wreaths Amy Miehl.

Simple to do and very pretty! You will need 2-3 rolls of deco-mesh ribbon (21” X 30’) to create a 24” colorful wreath for your favorite holiday or season. Warning: deco-mesh ribbon usually runs about \$10.00 but can be found on sale for \$5.00. Look for those coupons at Michaels or Jo-Anns. A package of pipe cleaners in matching colors is needed and other embellishments of your choice. Max of 10 participants. I will supply the frame. ***Cost is \$3.50.***

Hyperfuta Pots and Fairy Gardens Terri

Stettler and Lois Brown. Add Pizazz to your gardens with a Hypertufa Pot! Hypertufa is a versatile rock-like material made from cement, peat moss, perlite and vermiculite. It can survive below freezing and the heat of summer. It’s like making mud pies that yields a unique planter with an antique character. Materials will be provided. Bring old clothes. Ideas for creating a fairy garden will be shared. We will unmold and finish your creation on Sunday morning. ***Cost: \$10.00.*** Limit of 10 participants.

((Workshops continued page 11))

Finance Committee

by Kathleen Kuzmiak, Chair

In just a few weeks I will be asking chapter first vice presidents to complete evaluations with input from some of your chapter members. Three of our members receive stipends for their tremendous service to Alpha Alpha State. The awarding of these stipends is based on evaluations completed by each state chapter. Our Treasurer, *Keystonian* Editor and Webmaster appreciate the input from this process.

Included on the evaluation form is an opportunity for each chapter to make suggestions or add accolades to the evaluations. Last year we used electronic communication for the first time for these documents and had a return of 70 %. We would like to see an even better percentage this year. The letters with evaluation forms will be sent electronically in late November/early December to chapter **First Vice Presidents**. If the email address bounces back as incorrect, the second communication will be sent to the Chapter President. The return deadline is **February 6, 2015**.

Our committee thanks you in advance for your attention to these materials. Any questions can be forwarded to me at

kkuzmiak@aol.com or

717-299-3458. Home address: 1819 Windsong Lane, Lancaster, PA 17602.

International Rules Update

by Patricia Crouse, Chair

The only change from International convention that will be entered in our state bylaws is the change in the fee for honorary members from \$50.00 to \$49.50. The rationale is to enable us to induct legislators who have provided substantive support for educators and education. They are currently unable to accept any honorarium of \$50.00 or more.

World Fellowship News

by Grace Schauer, Chair

A world in need, a world of hope, a world of opportunity for Delta Kappa Gamma to help women explore their potential. When chapters contribute to the World Fellowship Fund they are enabling young women from 3rd world countries to impact education in their part of this world. I hope your chapter has budgeted to support this fund. Only our dollars sent to international keep this program going.

The 2014-15 list of recipients is now published on line under World Fellowship Committee. Students are coming from Indonesia, Philippines, Argentina, Czech Republic, Latvia, Zambia, and many more places. The disappointing news is that none are coming to Pennsylvania universities. Do we then do nothing? How about each chapter member adopting a student on the list? Keep in touch with her. Send her notes of care and encouragement. Introduce a student (WF in a Minute) at each meeting from the information you found on line. Keep our members aware of the young women who have come to America to expand their education. Each one will return to their home country and share their knowledge. When you contribute to WF Fund you become a part of that sequence. Let's not make this an "out of sight, out of mind" program.

The next International DKG NEWS will have more information including addresses.



At International, members considered and rejected the amendments that spoke to a change in how we elect our leaders and were content to allow the system as we know it to continue. Amendments that did pass included changes that speak to regionals and how they operate and the creation of the new collegial magazine. The DKG Bulletin focuses on research, while the new **(see Rules page 11)**

(Workshops from page 9)

Toothbrush Rugs Vonda Reed.

Scrap some old or favorite fabrics in an original rug. The one-step process called “Toothbrush rugs” is easy to master. “Couldn’t wear some of those too small clothes anymore, but I enjoy walking on them.”

Envelope Album Pat Arnold.

This mini envelope album has many pockets for your favorite show and tell photos. We will embellish it and it will be ready to fill when you get home.

Landscape Painting Jennifer Wolbert.

Participants will learn a technique for watercolor painting landscapes, specifically how to use color, size, detail, and placement to design and create their own original landscape. After learning the technique hopefully we will have time to use what we have learned and paint a second landscape. Limit of workshop participants is 12. All materials will be provided. *\$10.00 fee.*

Pillowcase Dresses Heather Lilenthal.

Bring your machine and make a pretty pillowcase dress for someone special or send

to “Dresses for Africa or Haiti” sizes 3-8. This is for beginner sewers and experienced sewers. You must have a knowledge of sewing seams, that’s all. Materials will be discussed after registration.

Mahjongg Karen Ball.

Mahjong is an ancient Chinese game of strategy, skill and chance. Mahjong can help improve your life and can actually help you relax. Mahjong is recommended by some scientists and researchers as a “brain game” to help improve cognitive function. It will greatly improve your problem solving skills by helping to focus your thought process and improve your sense of strategy and visual acuity. Mahjong is also a social game (when played in groups of 4) and regular social activity has been proven to help people stay healthier.

Paper Marbling Janet Riggio.

Paper marbling is used to add a painted design onto plain sheets of paper. These papers can then be used in craft projects ranging from stationary making to book binding. Marbling can be as simple or as complex as desired.



(Rules from page 10)

collegial magazine should prove helpful to chapters and practicing teaching members. It will be published 2 times a year and will include practical teaching information, chapter programs and development ideas. Plus, included will be personal reflections on topics of interest to women and women educators.

I want to continue to give support to chapters who are working on their chapter rules. My committee and I are willing to help you in any way we can. Thank you to the chapters who have sent in their rules. Keep working on them the second half of President Kay’s biennium.



Hear ye! Hear ye!

**Workshop presenters needed for the 2015
Alpha Alpha State Convention!**

**Applications for workshop presenters can
be found on the Alpha Alpha State website.
Click on the State Convention tab to find
the application.**

**Applications are due to Mary Van Lieu,
18 Shackletown Road, Bloomsbury, NJ 08804
by January 15, 2015. Applications may also
be emailed to maryvanlieu@gmail.com.**

Apply for AA State Scholarships and Enrichment Grants

Alpha Alpha State Scholarships and Enrichment Grants are available to members in good standing who have held membership for at least three years.

Scholarships will be offered for graduate study leading to an advanced degree or certification, or toward job and/or self improvement. Credit may be earned during a regular or summer term at an accredited college or university. A scholarship recipient may apply more than one time, but an individual's total may not exceed the maximum of \$7,000 during 2012 - 2016.

Marian Spitzer Robling Scholarship will be awarded to one active member in her 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year of Delta Kappa Gamma membership who is working in graduate study. The approximate amount of \$1000 will be awarded each fiscal year. Use the Scholarship Application if applying for this award.

Enrichment Grants will be awarded for enrollment in a Road Scholar program, continuing education for personal and professional growth, a travel and/or study tour, or to develop an approved independent study project or to present a paper to a professional organization. An Enrichment Grant recipient may receive a one-time award from 2012 – 2016 in each of the following categories:

1. Road Scholar or continuing education
2. Travel and/or study
3. Individual project, research project, or presentation of a paper

An applicant may not receive more than \$5000 from Enrichment Grant monies during 2012 - 2016. The following "Alpha Alpha State Scholarship Award Point System" will be used as criteria for selection:

1. Proposed use of scholarship (30 points)
 - a. Purpose of proposed graduate work or graduate travel/study
 - b. Projected time plan
 - c. Extent to which courses are completed
 - d. Use of scholarship money
 - e. Status of dissertation (doctoral candidate)
2. Society participation (30 points) Officer, Committee Chairman, Committee Membership at chapter, state, regional, and/or International levels; attendance, participation, responsibilities at conventions/meetings at chapter, state, regional, and/or International levels
3. Professional involvement (20 points)
 - a. Professional organizations
 - b. Job-related activities
 - c. Special honors/awards/publications
 - d. Professional letters of recommendation
4. Other involvement (10 points) Community activities/awards/honors

Application Deadline: Postmarked by February 1, 2015

Postage Due applications will be returned by the Post Office. Downloadable application Scholarships and Enrichment Grants can be found on the Alpha Alpha State website:

www.alphaalphapa.com/awards Click on Scholarship or Enrichment Grant. Use Word file to complete on your computer or PDF file to complete by hand.

Please note the procedural clarification that scholarships and enrichment grants are to be used in the fiscal year following the convention: June 14, 2015 thru Friday of convention, June 2016.

(See Contact page 13)



Legislative Heartbeat

by Regina Campbell, U.S. Forum - UN Liasion

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA)(S.5) was reauthorized and became law last year. The original act was designed to address the problem of violence against women by providing funding for law enforcement training as well as funding services for victims such as hotlines and battered women’s shelters. The reauthorization addressed only specific issues such as nondisclosure of personal information about victims, it provided funding for services to victims and mandated prosecution of offenders. The law has caused police to make an increased number of arrests. The unintended consequences of this policy were not foreseen. These include issues such as the arrest of the primary wage earner in a family which left some families in dire financial straights, and in some instances it has resulted in the removal of children from the home when the victim was not able to monetarily and physically provide for the family. For a more in depth explanation of the consequences of the law go to <http://nation.time.com/2013/02/27/whats-wrong-with-the-violence-against-women-act/>

THE CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ACT OF 2014 (S. 1086)

This act which originated in the Senate has passed the House with some differences between the bill passed by the House and the bill originally passed by the Senate. It is currently in the process of being revised by the Senate and should be passed by both the House and the Senate later this year.

PHYSICIAN EVALUATIONS

A recently launched rating of physicians has become available on the Internet. At that site hospitals and dentists are also rated. Because this site is relatively new, not all doctors, hospitals and dentists are rated. You should check to see how many patient responses have established the rating. To learn how your doctor or your surgeon is rated go to <http://www.healthgrades.com/>. You may fill out a survey to add your experiences to the ratings. The more surveys filled out the more accurate the ratings will be.

SAVING ON MEDICARE PART D

If you, a loved one or a friend is eligible for Medicare, there is a government web site which can be used to save money on Medicare Part D Prescription Drugs. To utilize this source go to: <https://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan/questions/home.aspx>.

OTHER HEALTHCARE INFORMATION

If you are not yet eligible for Medicare and do not have healthcare through your employer, you should check out <https://www.healthcare.gov/>. Enrollment for 2015 at this site begins November 15, 2014. If there have been changes in your family (death, birth or divorce), employment, and some other specific factors, you may be able to enroll for 2014 at this site. It is also possible to enroll for Medicaid or CHIP at this site. If you are teaching economically disadvantaged students this information may

(See Healthcare page 14)

(Contact from page 12)

Contact:

Lois Brown

State Scholarship Chair

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Lancaster PA 17601-2950

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clbfour@verizon.net

2015 Deadlines for Applications and Reports

State Convention Workshop Presenter	January 15
Nancy Grove Visionary Fund	February 1
International and State Scholarships	February 1
Chapter President’s Annual Report (Form 54)	February 1
Necrology Annual Report (Form 2)	February 1
State Achievement Award	March 15
Album of Distinction Application	April 1

Golden Gift Leadership Seminar 2014, Reflection

by Barbara Gasperini

I was thrilled to be awarded the Golden Gift. My first impression was like riding a rollercoaster. You are thrilled to get on. Scared to death to get started. Amazed at how you feel during the “ups” and “downs.” Before you know it, is over and you want to go again!

By attending the Leadership Management Seminar, I learned techniques used in: Interpersonal Communications; Intelligence; Mental Ability; Partnership and Gender Communications; Leading Across Generations; Obtaining Optimal Wellness; Improving Your Personal Image; Negotiations; and Values and Ethics. This two week seminar at the University of Texas in Austin, makes stronger and more confident leaders and gave me the opportunity to learn how to lead in DKG.

Are you going to apply for the Golden Gift? A very wise women once told me to say yes

and then find out what to do. ***Don't wait. Time passes quickly and the time is now!***

Always continue to improve your personal and professional life. Move toward your goals and desires one step at a time - *The Daffodil Principle*. Don't say, "I will think about it one day." Make tomorrow day-one. What do you have to lose? More importantly...

“What do you have to gain?”



Barbara and Annie Web Blanton's portrait, International Headquarter, Austin

ATTENTION!!!!

The 2015-2017 Alpha Alpha State President will select members to fill all appointed committees. The appointed committees are: **Leadership Development; Membership/Expansion; Rules; Communications; Educational Excellence; U.S. Forum; Scholarship; World Fellowships; State Achievement Award Committee; and Historical Records.** If you have an interest in serving on an appointed state committee, please indicate THREE (3) committees you may be interested in serving on and send your name, chapter, and email address to Louann Shrader via snail mail or email by **April 15, 2015.**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Return to lshrader@embarqmail.com or mail: Louann Shrader, 205 Oak Hill Circle, Hanover, PA 17331

(Healthcare from page 13)

be helpful for their families to have. To get help by telephone or to locate a local help information source go to <https://www.healthcare.gov/contact-us/> **U.S. FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE**

<http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

U.S. FORUM WEB SITE <http://bit.ly/DKGUSF>

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional

Switchboard 1-866-327-8670. You can contact your Congressman and Senator toll free.

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate

White House 1-202-456-1111

FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.

In Memoriam

Madge M. Weber

July 11, 2014

Alpha Theta

Madge was a charter member of Alpha Theta for fifty years. She was President of Alpha Theta in 1960-1962. Madge taught for 41 years and was a lifetime member of PSEA and PASR.

Averyl W. Underwood

July 31, 2014

Alpha Gamma

Averyl was a founding member of Alpha Gamma and held various offices over a 66 year membership. She was a graduate of Edinboro State Teachers College. She furthered her education at Clarion University, University of Pittsburgh, Duke University and Penn State University. She was very involved in her community as well as past president of the Crawford County Chapter of PASR.

Sibyl McMurray

Stump-Pyle

May 16, 2014

Sibyl was an active participant in Alpha Zeta. She had years of dedicated service to education in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Carolyn B. Cronin

March 7, 2014

Theta

Carolyn transferred from Alpha Chi in the year 2000. She was Communications Chairman. She was a retired dietitian from Connelley Skill Center in 1985.

Dr. Irene Murphy

August 6, 2014

Beta Delta

Irene was a charter member of Beta Delta, formed in 1962. She was chapter President from 1996-1998; Alpha Alpha State President from 1981-1983; and

International President from 1994-1996. Dr. Murphy was a life-long educator. She was a reading specialist with the South Western School District, in York County, PA, for 23 years until her retirement in 1988. She continued as a substitute until reaching her early 80's, and was a trusted colleague and mentor to many women educators and Delta Kappa Gamma sisters.

Dr. Marcella May

Hyde-Smith

July 23, 2014

Alpha Zeta

Marcella became a part of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1962. In 1988, she received the Distinguished Educator Award from Mansfield University. She established and funded two student scholarships at Mansfield University and was a charter member of Mansfield University Foundation.

She lived for those she loved and those she loved remember.

*Thank
You,
Alpha
Alpha State
Sisters*

Bill and all the family wish to thank you for the many cards, prayers, and concerns through these last few year of Irene's life. Thanks also to those who had visited her when you could and especially to those who were able to attend her viewing and/or her services.

Delta Kappa Gamma was a big part of Irene's life and she enjoyed

every minute thinking about and talking about all her sisters. I thank you all for giving her many years of happiness. She will be remembered for being a very strong person. A red rose and a DKG pendant went with her to the end.



Elizabeth (Betty) Raymond

Chapter News

Alpha Nu

President Kay Crosses PA to Visit

Alpha Nu (Bucks County)

Alpha Nu Chapter welcomed Kay on Friday evening, Oct. 10, at Chapter President Jan O'Banion's home. Officers and members enjoyed a warm, friendly evening getting to know Kay better.

The luncheon meeting on Saturday, October 11, at the Cock & Bull Restaurant in Peddlers' Village was attended by 45 members. It was the first gathering of the new year and began with an induction of three

new members. Various committees presented projects and ideas for the 2014-2015 year. Kay brought members up to date on state activities. Watch out! She is looking for workshop presenters for next June's Alpha Alpha state meeting.

Kay cuts her own cake at Friday evening soiree.



Induction from left: Peggy Rowlett, Michelle Rainier (sponsor), Jolene Martin, Ellen Short, Karen Fisher (sponsor)

Kay and Alpha Nu President, Jan O'Banion



Beta Rho

Nine local educators and one Honorary Member were recently initiated as active members in the Beta Rho Chapter at the October meeting in Montrose. Pictured left to right front row are

Barbara Kelly, April Jones, Donna Porter, Ann Marie Leber, Allison Wilson, and Megan Bent. Back row left to right are Heather Dunn, Judy Ambrose, Meghan Gilleran, and Gretchen Warner.



Representing Phi Chapter and guests were President Ellen Strauskulage and long-time member and friend Doris Goerlitz. Heather Dunn's parents were also in attendance. Dr. Annie Webb Blanton, founder of the Society and portrayed by Cindy G. Reynolds, gave an informative presentation of the history of DKG and Beta Rho Chapter. Miss Annie also served as the presider at the lovely initiation ceremony. Other business addressed by co-presidents Jeanette Saulo and Sheri Wolfe included the awarding of the Beta Rho Achievement Award to Carol Goodman; three baskets of donated school supplies were distributed for the S.E.E. Project; and a collection netted \$400.00 for Beta Mu Chapter member in need of a new prostheses.

Beta Omicron

The Beta Omicron Chapter welcomed new member, Marie

Lentz, at their October meeting. L to R: Mindy Patton, 1st Vice President, Janene Groff, Recording Secretary, Marie Lentz, Linda Irwin, 2nd Vice President, Amy Buddock, President, and Marcia McQueen, Treasurer.



Beta Epsilon

For the 2014-2015 school year, the Beta Epsilon Chapter is participating in several projects: “Backpacks for Kids,” “Teacher Survival Kits” and “We Care for Kids.”

For the annual “**Backpacks for Kids**” Project, chapter members collect backpacks and school supplies such as notebooks, crayons, markers, colored pencils, pencils, pens, erasers, rulers and glue. The school supplies are then placed in the backpacks for elementary and middle school students.

On August 6, 2014, sisters prepared 103 backpacks. The backpacks were funded by dona-



tions from chapter members, Blair County Democratic Women’s Book Club, Girl Scout Troop #40991 of St. Michael and the Northern Cambria County Rotary Club. The backpacks were distributed to elementary schools and middle schools in

nine school districts located in Cambria, Blair and Somerset Counties.

In order to support early-career educators, the chapter approved a new teacher project proposed by the Educational Excellence Committee at its September 2014 meeting. Supporting Early-career Educators, or SEE, was established by Delta Kappa Gamma Society International at its 2012 International Convention. The purposes of the project are to share the Society’s vision, *Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*, and to strengthen the Society.

“**Teacher Survival Kits**” include items such as paper clips, rubber bands, crayons, erasers, stickers, gum, tea bags, and food stuffs. Thirty-three kits were delivered to new teachers in four schools located in Cambria, Blair and Somerset Counties. The chapter hopes to expand the “Teacher Survival Kits” Project in the upcoming years.

The Beta Epsilon Chapter continues to collect personal care and hygiene items for its “**We Care for Kids**” Project. Items will be collected throughout the school year and distributed in the spring. Sisters collect new items such as deodorant, shampoo, soaps, toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs and brushes to donate to local school nurses. The nurses distribute the items to students in need.

Sigma

Sigma Chapter had its first meeting of the new biennium in October. Teachers from the Line Mountain School District presented program entitled ‘Hopes and Dreams through Responsive Classrooms,’ which encourages students to think about their future and change the culture of their school and in which their ideas and goals are honored and encouraged.

Those Sigma members in the photo are: front row left to right: **Peggy Long, Beth Reed**; back row left to right: **Jill Lundy, Sandra Kessler,**

Mary Ann Taxis, Carol Kruskie. Missing from photo: Jeanne Menko.



Enrichment Grant Excursions

Alaska Pipeline by Diane Whitaker, Omicron

Because Alaska is so huge, I chose to follow the trans-Alaskan pipeline to Valdez from Fairbanks. Driving Route 4, the Richardson Highway,



we followed the path of the pipeline as it went both above and below ground as well as crossing both sides of the road. Amazing!



Worthington Glacier, which is receding.

With my brother as our guide, my twelve year old grandson, nephew, and I stopped at several sites beginning with walking up the

Next we stopped to see two beautiful falls, Horsehead and Bridal Falls, which cascaded down the mountainsides.

Just outside Valdez, we walked through an old hand drilled railway tunnel. Story has it that after the gold rush fever, copper mines were the next discovery so Valdez and Cordova competed for a railway line to interior Alaska. Valdez got as far as the unfinished tunnel.

In Valdez, we visited museums to learn of the gold rush, the 1964 Earthquake and their native culture. We took a boat ride to see the Columbia Glacier, one of the largest tidewater glaciers along the Alaskan coast. We also saw sea otters,

sunning sea lions, a pair of bald eagles and porpoises. The boys tried some salmon fishing, but the sea lions hovered nearby and with one quick motion threw the salmon into the air and down their mouths.



This was such a grand opportunity! Thank you Delta Kappa Gamma for funds to visit the vast state of Alaska.

The Chautauqua Institution by Jane Carney, Gamma

“There is no place like it. No resort. No spa. Not anywhere else in the country, or anywhere in the world—it is at once a summer encampment and a small town, a college campus, an arts colony, a music festival, a religious retreat and the village square—and there’s no place —no place —with anything like its history.” David McCullough, Historian & Author

McCullough’s quotation aptly describes Chautauqua Institution, a 750 acre not-for-profit educational center located on Chautauqua Lake in southwestern New York State. The Institution was founded in 1874 as a training camp for Sunday school teachers. It has evolved into a place that feeds the mind, body and spirit with programs centered around four key areas: the arts, education, religion and recreation.

I was able to experience Chautauqua Institution because of an enrichment grant I received from Alpha Alpha State this past June. For a nominal fee, [\(See Chautauqua page 19\)](#)

(Chautauqua from page 18)

the **55 Plus Program** is a program aimed at giving mature adults an opportunity to live on the grounds and take part in all that the Institution offers during that time. Having lived in Northwest Pennsylvania all my life, I was familiar with the Institution since it is just an hour's drive from my hometown of Erie. In the past I have attended many day programs and evening performances, but attending the 55 Plus Week allowed me to experience Chautauqua in a whole new way.

Each week during the 9 weeks of the Chautauqua season, programs are designed around a theme. During week 9, I continued the second part of a three part series on health care, explor-

ing innovations throughout the health care delivery experience, from lab to patient care. Topics included sessions exploring the mind/body connection through mindful meditation, current research in Alzheimer's, brain development and brain aging, mobility and function in the elder years, and exploring innovations to health while enabling inter-professional practice through team based care. I found that all lectures, no matter what the topic, stressed the need for teamwork—all health care professionals, no matter what their field of expertise, talking to each other, sharing ideas and **not** working in a vacuum. All speakers stressed this need for a collaborative spirit in order to improve health outcomes.

Besides feeding the mind, the week also fed the spirit with opportunities to attend morning worship sessions, a Chautauqua tradition. The senses are not ignored either, with opportunities to attend musical performances, plays, art exhibits, or to just explore the beautiful, peaceful grounds, whether walking, biking, boating or sitting on any of the numerous benches.

I am deeply grateful to Alpha Alpha State for this grant which allowed me to take advantage of such a rewarding experience. It was a week of learning, understanding, relaxation and appreciation of everything Chautauqua Institution had to offer. ***There truly is no place like it.***



U.S. National Parks in the West by Marlene Moul, Kappa

In August 2014, my husband and I visited the United States National Parks in Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, and South Dakota with an Enrichment Grant from Alpha Alpha State. We flew from BWI to Phoenix AZ where the temperature was 103 degrees – a very cruel awakening. We enjoyed our first dinner, a Chili Cook-off, and met our fellow travelers.

The following day we were on our way to the artists' colony of Sedona where the rocks were a red to orange-colored sandstone. We left for Lake Powell, a recreation spot to aid in the survival of cities, industries, and agriculture throughout the West and Mexico. The Lake, the second largest in the US, began filling in March 1963.

We then arrived at the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, dedicated in 1919. We arrived dur-

ing a horrific thunderstorm but when it ended we hiked along the canyon top to see spectacular sites of the colorful canyon. We spent our night in a cozy log cabin along the rim.

The next day we drove to the stunning red and white sandstone cliffs of Zion National Park, (1909). Although it was raining, this added to the splendor of the canyon as the water fell down the mountainside into thousands of waterfalls. We took a guided tram tour of the canyon and had a spectacular sunset.

The following day we drove to Bryce Canyon National Park (1928). The colorful shapes, called Hoodoos, are the creation of wind and water erosion plus the freezing of the rocks. We left the canyons and went to Salt Lake City, UT. We enjoyed an organ recital on the Tabernacle organ and listened to a practice of the Tabernacle Choir. We toured the city, the state capitol, and the Great Salt Lake, which was low and smelled of sulphur. We stopped at the Oregon/California Trail

(See Sulpher page 20)

(Sulphur from page 19)

Center to experience the five-month journey of those traveling west. And, yes, it was still pouring rain!

We continued through Jackson Hole, WY and sampled a Chuckwagon meal & entertainment. We floated down the Snake River, saw many eagles, and ended the day at a rodeo with bull and bronco riders, and calf ropers. Our tour then moved through the Grand Teton National Park (1929) and we saw its glaciers and twelve Teton peaks over 12,000 feet high. Yellowstone National Park (1872), our first national park, was next. We viewed sulphur cauldrons, volcanoes, waterfalls, bison, elk, geysers, and Old Faithful. We crossed the Continental Divide where the waters flow into

the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans, depending on which side of the park they are in.

We traveled from the mountains to the prairies and into Cody WY, home of Buffalo Bill Cody, the Whitney Western Art Museum, and the Plains Indian Museum. We saw the Bighorn Mountains, the territory of the Great Sioux Nation, and made our way to the Crazy Horse Monument (begun in 1948 and still going on). Our final stop was Mount Rushmore in SD. It must be seen, up close and personal, to realize the work that was done by over 400 workers.

I want to thank Alpha Alpha State for the Enrichment Grant I received so I could fulfill the dream of visiting all these magnificent places and learn so much more about the National Parks in the United States.



Reaching Back to Our Ancestors

by Stephanie Fulena and Rose Ann Fulena, Alpha Sigma



Three descendants of James Henderson at Fordell Castle

Genealogy is not a cold, emotionless science. Finding your ancestral origins can be unbelievably heartwarming and poignant. Rose Ann, Lee Ann, and I had such a surprising, unexpected moment in a churchyard cemetery in Auchterderran, Kingdom of Fife, Scotland, and, again nearby at Fordell Castle, ancestral home of the Henderson clan, my paternal grandmother's family heritage. With the help of Ancestry.com, and notes my father gave me many years ago, we were able to literally touch base with our Scottish background.



Henderson-Ramsay Tombstone Auchterderran, Scotland

Later in Ireland, where my grandmother's own grandmother was born, we got to walk on the beautiful land where those ancestors once

walked. It was a thrilling and enlightening adventure in two beautiful, friendly, charming countries. ~Stef~

In addition to our own genealogical treasures, our trip to Scotland and Ireland provided many once-in-a-lifetime moments. Among the beautiful and colorful flowers of Scotland, we visited castles of kings and queens, present and past, St. Andrews College and St. Andrews Links. We witnessed a nation divided by their opinions of independence from the United Kingdom. We saw the



Cliffs of Moher, County Clare, Ireland

(See Ancestors page 21)

From York, PA to York, England

by Patricia Walker, Beta Beta

Imagine walking where Beatrix Potter, Charlotte and Emily Bronte, William Wordsworth, Queen Victoria, and Queen Elizabeth II have walked! If you are an anglophile, as I am, then this northern lake tour of England would have been just your cup of tea. I traveled with 21 other folks from the East coast on a tea and literary tour sponsored by The Royal Tea Club in September. Although I have visited the UK several times, I have never been to the Yorkshire area and what a bucolic scene met my eyes. We saw hundreds of sheep with tinted backsides to denote their owner, separated in their fields by free-standing stone walls and hedgerows. Among the sixteen lakes were dozens of snow white, graceful swans trumpeting to their mates. The abundance of colorful, oversized flowers, especially the begonias, was a sight to behold. They were in gardens, in flower boxes, hanging from baskets, and for sale in the country markets. I never tired of seeing the small hamlets with stone cottages, some with thatched roofs, and rushing streams passing under stone bridges. To behold churches over 1,000 years old and still solidly standing and in use is a wonder to me.

Our first of six teas, at Woburn Abbey, was so elegant and tasty. This was on the same day we had stepped off the airplane after an overnight flight “across the pond.” Though tired, we still were able to enjoy the ambience of the tearoom and the amazing abbey. Another enjoyable, light tea with the most perfect clotted cream was on a canal boat in the Skipton area of Yorkshire. Canal

boats may be privately rented for holiday travel – now there is a future vacation! A third noteworthy high tea was at Betty’s Tearoom in York. This was especially exciting for me as I am from York, Pennsylvania, which is named for York, England. This old walled city was so historic and interesting, especially the cathedral and the narrow, cobble stoned streets whose names throw back to past occupations such as a butcher or “prostitute”.

Besides visiting York, the other highlights of the trip for me were Hill Top Cottage, home of Beatrix Potter, where she wrote and illustrated her famous children’s stories and the Bronte sisters’ home in Haworth where *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights* were written. Copies of all of their works came home with me to share with my grandchildren.



Parsonage in Haworth, England where Charlotte and Emily Bronte wrote their novels

A surprise occurred when we were able to view the first episode of *Downton Abby* as the new season premiered in England in September. SHHH – You will just have to wait until January to see it here in the states.

Thanks again to the Alpha Alpha State Scholarship Committee for the grant that helped me to make this remarkable and unforgettable trip to northern England.

(Ancestors from page 20)

murals depicting the political and religious divisions of Northern Ireland, walked the gardens of Powerscourt Estate, viewed the Book of Kells, observed Dublin from high above at Guinness Storehouse, listened to traditional Irish music at a traditional Irish pub, walked the shores of Galway

Bay and climbed the Cliffs of Moher. Our trip across the pond was a blessing to be cherished forever. ~Roe~

Thanks Alpha Alpha members for the financial help with our trip. If you have never applied for an enrichment grant, you should consider doing so today.

Pens and Pencils for Pupils

by Linda McElroy, Alpha Beta

I am indebted to our state membership for allowing me to benefit from Alpha Alpha State's Enrichment Grant. DKG's Schools for Africa Project and the encouragement of friends caused me to apply for an Enrichment Grant and plan for an adventure that began when I flew 17 hours to Cape Town, South Africa. Our first encounter with students was at a school serving children from nearby poverty housing. The school was government funded. The teachers were not well trained and were poorly paid. There was no heat in the building and the supplies were meager, yet the children were bright-eyed, eager to learn, and noticeably kind to each other.

Later that day we visited an after-school program called GAPA (Grandmothers Against



Poverty and AIDS). Nearly 100 students attended this program created and led by grandmothers and young volunteers. After school, these students from government schools were provided with a safe haven where they could play games and enjoy sports, dance, create crafts, write, and eat a warm meal. Life is not easy for these children. As we drove away, we passed acres and acres of metal shacks which were a remnant of apartheid. These

homes were called "informal housing." Even though these students were eager to learn and full of love, they had a grim future.

Three types of schooling are found in South Africa and Zimbabwe: government schools, private schools, and boarding schools. The cost, teacher training, available books and materials, and quality of education vary greatly among the three. In all types of schools students wear uniforms, supply their own personal materials, and go to school year round. All schools are regulated by law to have 40 to 50 students per classroom!

Following our visit in Cape Town, we flew to Zimbabwe. We stopped at a platform near a watering hole to observe animals. While there, we encountered middle school students and teachers from a private school who were on a week-long trip to see the bush areas and Victoria Falls. We talked with several teachers and found them to be well-trained, enthusiastic, and took great pride in their students. The students were polite, respectful, and orderly. They were very curious about us and loved to have their pictures taken!

Our most heart-wrenching encounters occurred in the Victoria Falls area at the city's open market. There, adults told us they would reduce the meager prices if we could trade an item. Sometimes they asked for old clothing, but more often they asked for pens and pencils. Even

in the poor government run schools, parents must furnish uniforms and supplies. They were desperate to sell their wares, for unemployment is



70%, but even more important to them was the chance to obtain pens and pencils for their children. At that point, I knew I had to do something for these children and families.

Harrison, our guide, drove us to a homestead village. Families built huts here on dry, bare land for their living space.



We were introduced to a brother, 27 year-old Bongani, and his sister, 16 year-old Sihle whose parents had died from AIDS. They were trying to rebuild a summer kitchen destroyed by wind and rain. There was no electricity or running water. Sihle, a high school student, loves learning and walks several miles daily to school. They interrupted their cooking to show us into the thatched huts they used for sleeping. As we found elsewhere, Bongani and Sihle were pleasant

(See Village page 23)

Cruise up the Rhine by Lindy Marwood, Alpha Phi

With help from an Alpha Alpha State Enrichment Grant, I was able to make a dream come true - a Rhine River Cruise. A friend and I flew to Amsterdam, which was the loveliest, friendliest



city ever. Everywhere unique house facades were reflected in endless canals, as the Amstel River flowed under graceful curved bridges.

We cruised to Kinderdijk, The Netherlands to tour a 16th century, wooden windmill still operating as part of the eternal fight to keep flood waters at bay. Millers, who operate the old windmills, are required to live in their mills because the sails and equipment are so complicated that they require continual management 24 hours a day.

During the night we sailed on to Cologne, Germany. We visited the ruins of the ancient city built by the Romans and toured the magnificent Cologne Cathedral, Gothic in architecture, started in 1248 but not completed until 1880. The builders who completed this wonder used the exact same architectural plans as those who started the building in the 13th Century. The size, the stained glass windows, the vaults and statues created a strong climate of reverence for me. This site was also a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Farther along the river, we entered *The Middle Rhine*. Here the water narrows between very steep hills sporting fairy tale castles as finials. We hiked up to Marksburg Castle, an arduous task.

Castles were built on nearly inaccessible sites to ward off marauders. The only entry was up a slippery, slate path. Even within the castle we climbed and slid from castle gate to solar, from bedroom to wine cellar, from scullery to chapel. This cold, wet, uncomfortable place was the McMansion of the richest, most powerful family for miles around.



Strasbourg, France brought us back to the present. It's home to the the impressive *Palais de L'European*, seat of the European Parliament with its large stadium for European athletic events. In front were huge, waving flags of all united European nations. Across the square, the city's huge Gothic cathedral appeared immense. Standing inside, looking up at the soaring arches, I understood the original meaning of the word *awe* inspiring. How could these people possibly have built this structure without modern tools and technology?

Our last day was in Colmar, France, because we wanted to see how the city had been restored after the Allied destruction in WW II. The center of the city was beautifully rebuilt. Houses and shops were quaint with half-timbered buildings built along cobble-stoned streets. There were canals and more magnificent displays of flowers. One could spend many hours sightseeing, shopping, and learning in the many magnificent museums. One museum is dedicated to Bartholdi, designer of the *Statue of Liberty*. Learning about Bartholdi seemed a fitting way to end an adventure down the Rhine before returning to America.

Thank you, Scholarship Committee, for the trip of a lifetime.



Due to space limitations, additional Enrichment Grant Excursions
will be published in future issues of *The Keystoneian*.

(Village from page 22)

and polite to us – unknown foreigners to their land. Through Harrison, we made arrangements to assist these two young people. Since returning home, we have continued to exchange emails with Harrison. He has sent pictures of the improved homestead of Bongani and Sihle.

Harrison and others and I have developed a dream of helping furnish school supplies for poor rural children in the area of Victoria Falls. I applaud the Schools for Africa project in which

DKG has joined with UNICEF to improve educational opportunities in thirteen countries across Africa; this help is sorely needed. Mailing supplies to Africa is prohibitive, so the most cost effective way to furnish supplies is to wire money to Harrison. He is able to buy pens and pencils in bulk and deliver them himself to rural schools. If you find this information of interest, contact me at: *Pens and Pencils for Pupils, 594 Ridgewood Drive, New Paris, PA 15554.*



The Keystonian

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Key Women Educators

Official Publication of Alpha Alpha State PENNSYLVANIA

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
YORK, PA
PERMIT NO. 323

The Keystonian

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504 East Maitland Lane
New Castle, PA 16105-1420
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The Keystonian is published four times a year by Alpha Alpha State (PA) Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
by
Caskey Group, LLC
850 Vogelsong Road
York, Pennsylvania 17404

THE KEYSTONIAN deadline for the Spring Issue is **February 1, 2015.**



FUTURE EVENTS

Creative Arts Retreat, Olmsted Manor, Ludlow, PA	March 27-29, 2015
Choral Retreat (contact Shirley Newhart for details)	May 1 & 2, 2015
Alpha Alpha State Convention, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA	June 12 -14, 2015
NERC/ Baltimore Hyatt Regency, Baltimore, MD	July 8-11, 2015
International Convention, Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, TN	July 5-9, 2016

PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE

2015 State Convention Planning Meeting	December 4 & 5, 2014
Sigma Chapter Visit	December 6, 2014
Beta Sigma Chapter Visit	December 10, 2014
Theta & Alpha Xi Chapter Visit	March 7, 2015
Beta Alpha Visit	March 12 2015
Scholarship Committee	Meeting March 14, 2015
Creative Arts Retreat	March 27-29, 2015
Alpha Omicron, Alpha Sigma, & Lambda Chapter Visit	April 11, 2015
Alpha Kappa Visit	April 16, 2015
Beta Rho, Alpha Zeta, Phi Chapter Visit	April 18, 2015
Finance Committee Meeting	May 2, 2015
Alpha Delta Chapter Visit	May 16, 2015