**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**

 **PENNSYLVANIA STATE ALPHA BETA CHAPTER**

**Alpha Beta Bits**

Volume XXVIII, Number 2 November/December, 2018

**President's Message**

**A Christmas Wish**

I’d like a stocking made for a giant

And a meeting house full of toys

Then I’d go out in a happy hunt

For the poor little girls and boys;

Up the street and down the street,

And across and over the town.

I’d search and find them everywhere,

Before the sun went down.

---Author Unknown

Dear Sisters,

 As we approach the holidays, we are reminded of holidays past and many memories flood our thoughts. We prepare to spend time with family and friends and look forward to hearing about the things that have happened in the last year.  There are always stories to tell, laughs to be had and tears to be shed.  Treasure the good and the bad moments because these are all things that make us who we are today.

 I wish for each of you a stocking full of health, happiness and joy to spread to family; a stocking full of cheer and promise that you can share with someone; a stocking full of love and understanding that may change someone's life forever.

 The holidays give us an opportunity to reflect on our year and prepare for what lies ahead.  We have a lot of amazing things coming up this year and I look forward to sharing all of these with each of you.

 Educationally Yours,

 Kris



**Social Policy for Flowers and Gifts**

 The revised Social Policy for Flowers and Gifts is included in this newsletter on a separate page. Please keep the page in your large red notebook for future reference.

 ---Linda Fisher, Phone Chain Chairman

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**DECEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**Program**

 You won’t want to miss our Christmas Tea, December 1st for two reasons. (Well, you could probably think of more than two!) But here are the two I’m thinking of:

 1. Bring in the Christmas season by wishing a very warm Merry Christmas to your DKG sisters.

 2. The program is going to be sooo sweet and good.

Oh, I just thought of another one:

 3. There will be yummy things to eat. (I love pineapple. I hope Ivy Stone has it on the buffet.)

 If you read carefully and noticed the underlined words, you might get a hint as to what the program is about!!!???

 See you there,

 --Patty Valentine, Visual & Performing Arts Committee Chairman

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* **Christmas Chinese Auction**

 The Conference Fund Committee will be holding its annual Christmas fundraiser. Please bring an item valued at $5 (or slightly more) to be included in their Chinese auction. Tickets for the auction will be sold for $1 each or 6 for $5. Bring your cash or check to start or continue your Christmas shopping!

 --Lois Stoner, Conference Fund Committee Chairman

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**REMEMBER TO BRING**

**New Teacher Project Items:** Large Thank-You, Good Luck, or Way to Go candy bars for new teachers. (These were at Dollar General and Martins-Giant.) We will be giving these out in January/February; and also small notebooks for the reflection book we will be giving to the new teachers at the end of the year. ---Kris Walters

**State Convention Basket Raffle**: Items for our chapter’s basket for State Convention may be brought to the December 1 meeting. Donations will also be collected at the spring meetings as “Summer Family Fun” contributions are always welcome, but “the sooner, the better”. --- Lois Stoner

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**PENNSYLVANIA STATE ORGANIZATION NEWS**

**Enrichment Grants for Members**

 If you are considering pursuing a personal or professional goal (travel, learn more about an avocation, enlighten yourself about an area of the country or the world, whatever), consider applying for an **Enrichment Grant**. (These grants are one benefit of membership.) Applications can be found on the state website (dkgpa.weebly.com) or you can get a hard copy of one from Becky Johnen. Last year, applications were due February 1 so you have time to think about this. But don’t wait until the last minute. The Executive Board of the Chapter has to provide a recommendation for the grant so you need to provide time for that to happen. If you are interested but have questions, ask Becky or past Chapter grant recipients Lois Stoner and Melissa Flynn. --Becky Johnen,

**Proposals for Presentations at State Convention**

The program chair for the 2019 State Convention is seeking **proposals for presentations**. Have something interesting to share? Think about submitting a proposal. They will be due by January 14, 2019 and the form can be found on the state website (dkgpa.weebly.com). --- Becky Johnen

**Purposeful Seminar: A Tribute to the Women of the American Revolution**

 On the weekend of October 5-7, I was privileged to participate in the Purposeful Seminar: A Tribute to the Women of the American Revolution. The Saturday tour of Valley Forge National Park provided deep and insightful information about the conditions and routines of the troops stationed at Valley Forge. We then drove to Philadelphia, where we enjoyed a delicious lunch in the City Tavern Restaurant. The Museum of the American Revolution was well organized and included fascinating artifacts, many with the intention of highlighting the role women played in the birth of our country. That evening featured a program on Fraktur, an American Folk Art originating in southeastern Pennsylvania. Sunday morning, we were challenged with an engaging and difficult code breaking activity---and my team broke the code first! ---Melissa Flynn

**Alpha Beta Bits**

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**September Program “Stars”**

 KUDOS to members present at the September meeting for outstanding performances in the “Do You Know Our Story?” program! Anyone wanting a copy (electronic or paper) of the script used for that program, contact Becky Johnen. And, if you’ve not done so, check out the website for a posting of pictures from the meeting and program. There are six posted. Can you find them all?

 ---Becky Johnen

 **Gifts for New Teachers**

 Our project for beginning educators took on large proportions as we learned that there were quite a few new hires in school districts this year. The numbers were as follows: Everett-6, Bedford-2, Chestnut Ridge-6, Spring Cove-8, Tussey Mountain-2 and Claysburg-5 . The mugs were stuffed with our tri-fold brochure, compliments of Becky Johnen, a $5 Sheetz gift card, complements of our generous members, and the mug itself, some complements of member donations and some made by Melissa Flynn.

 ---Melissa Flynn

**Jabaloni School Progress**

 Because of the interest and help from our members, I was able to gather and wire another $1,000 to Harrison to be used in work toward completing the Jabaloni School near Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. We are closer and closer to meeting the goal of $30,000. This is amazing!! Much has been accomplished because of Delta Kappa Gamma and people who are interested in helping to provide a school for students who desperately want to be educated. In Zulu, Jabaloni means “happiness” or “joy,” and that is truly what you have helped provide!

 ---Linda McElroy

**Website Treasure Hunt**

Check out our chapter website:

(alphabeta-dkg.weebly.com) to see if you can find the inspirational quote. When you find it, email Becky Johnen at palfys@verizon.net with the name of the person who said those inspiring words (or put it on your meeting response form). Those responding will receive a special “prize” at the December meeting. If you do not have a computer, call a sister who does to see if she found the quote and get the name from her. You can put the name on your meeting response form and will then be eligible for the “prize.” ---Becky Johnen