



The Keystonian

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Key Women Educators

Official Publication of Alpha Alpha State PENNSYLVANIA

Alpha Alpha State Convention Welcomes



Northeast Regional Director, Mary Lee Makinen

Mary Lee Makinen currently serves our Society as Northeast Regional Director. She has served on Professional Affairs, Leadership Development, Expansion Committee Chair and Golden Gift Fund

Chair. She is also the Maryland State Executive Secretary and is on the State Leadership Development Committee. Makinen is a Golden Gift Fund recipient and is a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians. She was initiated into membership in 1986, holding many chapter and state leadership positions.

Makinen holds an undergraduate degree in secondary English and a Masters in Counseling. Her professional assignments included secondary English transitioning into Guidance. This led to 26 years as a middle school counselor, with retirement in 2011 after 34 years of service.

She makes her home in Maryland with her husband of 42 years. She is a very proud grandmother of 3, who enjoys cake decorating, scrapbooking, and has recently learned to make deco mesh wreaths. She likes to read whenever possible and leads a Bible study on the Beth Moore series.

International Golden Gift Fund Committee

The Golden Gift Fund Committee proudly announces that Barbara Gasperini, 2nd Vice President of Alpha Alpha State, has been selected as one of thirty (30) DKG members to participate in the 2014 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar in Austin, Texas, June 28 - July 11, 2014. **Congratulations Barbara!**

2013 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year, Ryan Devlin

Ryan Devlin is the youngest educator to receive the Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year Award. His accolades include winning the Keystone Technology Integrator award for his extensive use of technology in his classroom, and he is a two-time recipient of the PSEA Innovative Teaching Grant.

His undergraduate degree comes from Waynesburg University and his Masters was completed at California University of Pennsylvania. For the past seven years he has taught 11th grade English, creative writing, and digital media at Brockway Area High

[\(see Teacher page 3\)](#)



Alpha Alpha State Convention
Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA
June 13 - 15, 2014

INSIDE The Keystonian

Convention Hints	3
By-Laws/Rules Update	5
New Initiates	6
In Memoriam	7
Schedule in a Glance	8
Registration	9
Lodging Form	11
Workshops	13
Chapter News	12
Enrichment	14
Wondered?	20

Alpha Alpha State Officers 2013-2015

President

Kay Stuart

74 Happy Valley Lane
Knoxville, PA 16928-9481
h. 814.326.4446
c. 570.418.0052
kaystuart52@gmail.com

First Vice President/ Educational Excellence Committee Chair

Tracey Dusch

trae917@brockwaytv.com

Second Vice President/ Membership Chair

Barbara Gasperini

barbeemg@aol.com

Recording Secretary

Vanessa Sral

VSral@fhrangers.org

Corresponding Secretary

Candace Claar

candace.claar@
embarqmail.com

Treasurer

Wanda Keller

WKeller879@
atlanticbb.net

Parliamentarian

Suzanne Long

longsuz@aol.com

Webmaster

Cynthia Devonshire

cynthia.devonshire@
gmail.com

Website:

alphaalphapa.com

Editor

Bonnie Lee Barnes

iberrylady@aol.com

Addresses and phone numbers
are password protected on
alphaalphapa.com. Contact your
Chapter President for password.



President's Message: A Call to Action

by Kay Stuart

There are so many opportunities that come to us as members of DKG. To take advantage of these opportunities we must take **action**. I encourage you to **read** this edition of the *Keystonian* and then register for our State Convention. You will have the chance to **engage** with our International guest and current Northeast Regional Director, Mary Lee Makinen, as well as the PA Teacher of the Year, Ryan Devlin. Workshops on Society business and personal /and professional growth will **equip** you with knowledge to better serve your chapter and community.

At the convention last year, I invited those present to “join the dance.” Yes, we are going to **dance** at the Friday Night Fling. Check the “Schedule at a Glance” (page 8) to discover how we will celebrate birthdays, honor achievements, and pay tribute to our outgoing and incoming chapter presidents. Please be there to **support** your chapter president! Let’s not forget the basket raffles!

Check out the International Website, **dkg.org**. International Convention details are available and registration is open. I have already registered and booked my room! I am so excited to be present and to cast my vote for Dr. Lyn Schmid as our next International President. Don’t you want to be there for that? Plans are also in the works for a special gathering of PA Members to **wish her well** during her biennium and **to offer our support** for her work.

In addition to the slate of nominees, (found on the International Website) you will find that Dr. Hanna Fowler has submitted her name to run for Member at Large, running against Dr. Barbara Baethe. Be sure to **read** their information and **share** your thoughts with me. I will be asked to vote your wishes at Indianapolis.

This is a call to **ACTION!** **Register** for the PA State Convention (page 9) and for International Convention on **dkg.org**. Book your rooms (page 11). Get ready for a wonderful experience.

Will you **join** me –



Engaging with your sisters

Equipping yourself with experiences and knowledge

Empowering yourself to open doors of opportunity that come your way?

Finance Issues: Budget Requests

by Kathleen Kuzmiak

It is just amazing that it is time to begin looking at the budget for next year. To ensure a budget that meets the needs of our organization, we request that all Committee Chairs and Officers of Alpha Alpha submit budget requests by **April 4, 2014**. (see Budget page 6)

Some Hints for First Timers at State Convention

~ Guidelines for dress are easy and comfortable: Friday, casual; Saturday, school clothes or dressy casual; Saturday evening, your best dressy; Sunday, traveling clothes.

~ Register and unpack at the Nittany Lion Inn where you'll get a car tag to put on your vehicle and then park free at the adjacent garage.

~ Make sure to buy chances for all the raffle baskets. Baskets donated by chapters are outstanding and the proceeds from the raffle help defray convention costs. *There are appropriate times to put your tickets in the basket when meetings are not going on. Make sure you see the schedule within the convention booklet.*

~ Plan to go to the "First Timers" session on Friday evening as we give you a birdseye view of what to expect at Convention and the role you play in the State Organization. This is also a good time to meet and greet other first timers.

~ Do you like to sing? Everyone is welcome to join the chorus. See the convention schedule for chorus rehearsals. (page 8)

~ Be sure to sign up for all planned convention meals, Saturday's Luncheon, Saturday's Banquet, and Sunday's Brunch. (Note: *Saturday morning's continental breakfast is for your convenience only. The dining room of the Nittany Lion Inn also offers a full breakfast menu for a very reasonable price. Please note, however, Alpha Alpha State has no control over the amount of wait staff the Inn chooses to employ for Saturday morning to get all guests who choose to dine there in and out in a timely manner.*)

~ The Friday night meal is not planned but Whiskers (pub within the hotel) has a menu and the dining room has a full menu and seafood buffet. (Dining room opens at 5:30 and takes reservations, too)

~ Don't miss the Friday night fling! It's a fun way to kick off convention and develop new friendships.

(Teacher from page 1)

School. At his school he is chair of the English Department, the head Cross Country coach, and the senior high gifted coordinator.

He says, "Educators have numerous responsibilities and wear multiple hats, but it only takes five words to describe their profession: *selflessly dedicated to others' success.*" The result of exemplary teaching is never cash bonuses or Kardashian-like fame, but believes there is no nobler a profession. That is why educators must change into spandex suits and soar into their classrooms with a sense of urgency and determination to teach like the world depends on it." Devlin challenges us to join him in "Donning Spandex."

~ **Chapter Presidents make up the Executive Board of Alpha Alpha State.** All members, though, may attend the executive board meeting on Friday and all members should attend the First General Session on Saturday and the Second General Session on Sunday. All members can speak and do have a vote.

~ Plan on attending workshops in the morning and afternoon. This year the morning workshops will focus on Society business with workshops being offered by all State Committees. Afternoon workshops are based on last year's evaluations. The Educational Excellence Committee has planned workshops for you that address some of the comments and wishes you voiced. For those members eligible for Act 48 credit, a Certificate of Attendance will be available for those attending afternoon workshops.

~ As a gentle reminder: Please note that it is not the job of the State Photographer to take chapter pictures. She has her own schedule that she needs to follow. If you would like your own pictures please bring your own cameras, etc.

~ Though Sunday morning comes early, plan on getting up to attend the Spiritual Unity Ceremony followed by the Celebration of Life Ceremony. Both will be inspiring as we join together to remember and celebrate past and present members who had the vision to build the Society for each of us.

~ **Lastly, evaluations are important as we try to meet the needs of members. Before you leave on Sunday, please turn in your evaluations. If you forget, an evaluation form will be available on the State website, alphaalphapa.com, for 2 weeks following the convention. Whether online, or before you leave for home, please fill out an Evaluation Form to help in our planning for next year's State Convention. Your input is invaluable. Thank you in advance!**



Let's Get R.E.A.L.

by Amy Buddock, Membership Committee

Second Vice President and Membership Committee Chair, Barbara Gasperini, has challenged each chapter with “Let’s Get R.E.A.L.” about membership. We must **Reinstate, Educate, be Aggressive, and Learn**. In the last issue, we were reminded to Reinstate and strengthen Relationships in chapter membership. Now we are going to take a closer look at “E” in R.E.A.L.

E is for **Educate**. It is essential first enhance and educate our own members. As our State President, Kay Stuart, has said, “**Engage, Equip, Empower** are actions we need to impact education worldwide.” We must find ways to *engage* current members in the society, to *equip* them with the knowledge to share the society’s seven principles and mission, and to *empower* them with the confidence to share Delta Kappa Gamma with other exceptional women in education.

Ralph Marston stated, “Excellence is not a skill. It is an attitude.” It is imperative to help members gain an attitude of **Excellence** and to **Encourage** them to **Enrich** the **Experience** within the chapter as well as to **Expand** the society by **Educating** the community and potential members about Delta Kappa Gamma. I think G. K. Chesterton said it best, “Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.”

Sisters of Delta Kappa Gamma we must **EDUCATE!**

In the next issue we will be looking at the “A” in Let’s Get R.E.A.L.



PRESIDENT’S SCHEDULE	
March 15	State Scholarship Meeting
March 16-19	National Legislative Seminar
March 29	Tri-chapter visit - Beta Epsilon, Iota, Beta Xi
April 5	Four Chapter Visit - Beta Beta, Eta, Beta Delta, Beta Gamma
April 12	Four Chapter visit – Kappa, Alpha Kappa, Beta Iota, Beta Theta
April 26	State Finance Committee Meeting
May 1	Alpha Beta visit
May 3	Tri-chapter visit - Alpha Iota, Gamma, Alpha Omega
May 17	Tau Chapter visit

Dates to Remember		
Nominations for Rosebud Recognition Award		March 15, 2014
Lucile Cornet Award for participation in professional development		May 1, and Sept. 1
Alpha Alpha State Choral Retreat (RSVP by April 25 to Shirley Newhart)	Middletown, PA	May 2 and 3, 2014
Alpha Alpha State Convention	State College, PA	June 13 – 15, 2014
Seminar for Purposeful Living: <i>A Golden Dream</i>	Fort Wayne, IN	July 23-26, 2014
International Convention	Indianapolis, IN	July 28 - Aug. 1, 2014
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

State By-Laws and Rules Update

Patricia Crouse, Rules Chair

The Alpha Alpha State Rules Committee are still looking forward to reading Rules from each chapter. At State Convention, we will have a workshop with State Parliamentarian, Suzanne Long to go over changes and how we can help the chapters still writing their rules. Please use DKG's Constitution and the Go-To-Guide for Chapter Members: Handbook of the DKG Society International 2012. Please use Appendix B and Chapter Rules Checklist on page 29. Submit rules to pcrouse@pa.net. Thank you!



Proposed Amendment to State By-Laws / Vote Taken at State Convention

Article IV – Finances

Section 1

E. Visionary Fund

The visionary fund will be used for future development and needs of the state at the discretion of the state president. It will be funded with voluntary contributions from members, chapter projects, and memorials.

1. Move to:

Change the name of the Visionary Fund to the Nancy Grove Visionary Fund.

Rationale:

Nancy Grove began the Visionary Fund and the proposal is meant to honor her memory.

Financial Impact:

None

2. Move to:

Make the past state presidents the administrators of the Nancy Grove Visionary Fund disbursements. An active teacher member may apply for up to \$500 for an item/items that will support educational excellence in her classroom or school. One award will be presented at the annual state convention.

Rationale:

This will involve the past state presidents as a group to work together to determine the Nancy Grove Visionary Fund award winner through the reading of applications and meeting annually at the state convention.

It will also serve to support active teachers who are seeking to realize the mission of DKG to promote educational excellence in Pennsylvania's schools.

Fiscal Impact:

None

If amended will read:

Article IV – Finances

Section 1

E. Nancy Grove Visionary Fund

1) The visionary fund is named in memory of past state president Nancy Grove who started the fund.

2) The Nancy Grove Visionary Fund will be administered by the state past presidents and used to award up to \$500 to an active teacher member for an item/items that will support educational excellence in her classroom or school. One award will be presented at the annual state convention.

3) The Nancy Grove Visionary Fund will be funded with voluntary contributions from members, chapter projects, and memorials.

New Initiates and Reinstated Members

Beta

Dr. Sandra L. Becker
Runette E. Gabrielle

Delta

Elizabeth Harting
Nancy LaRose

Theta

Susan Ruckert
Traci Castro
Judi Snider

Zeta

Jacqueline Fullen
Cristine Wagner-Deitch

Eta

Lonna A. Ashton
Janys M. Kercher
Margaret M. Ramage

Christine L. Runk

Lambda

Heather Baker
Debbie Denniston
Heather L. Hake
Patricia A. Manfredi
Dr. Darlene B. Marnich
Rebecca J. Sopher
Connie L. Stembal
Roberta M. Hensel

Nu

Melody L. Best-Biscotti
Elizabeth E. Damiano
Sharon F. Gettel
Wendy L. Hartman
Brenda K. Harwick
Dorothy M. Noll
Melanie Ann Schaeffer

Tau

Catherine A. Mark
Patricia A. Schillay

Phi

Betty Mang
Jane E. Peet
Kayla Troast

Psi

Judith A. Britten
Jennifer L. Keith
Barbara E. Pisarchick

Alpha Beta

Carol E. Horner
Maria M. Scott

Alpha Gamma

Darcy N. Bell

Alpha Delta

Christy A. Hay

Alpha Epsilon

Sally Claypool
Melissa Kate Coyle

Tabitha Dart
Rebecca Hilzinger

Connie Shanks
Ruth Shidner

Alpha Iota

Marci M. Stitt

Alpha Lambda

Barbara Cassel
Lora Pirl
Terri Pritts
Billie Jo White
Torrie Winsock

Alpha Nu

Tammy K. Allen
Kristine Troxell
Blanche Speiser
Luana (Lonnie) Aul-Walsh
Laurie J. Strauss
Michelle K. Rainier
Jill L. Tressel

Alpha Rho

Caitlin G. Cooper
Nancy R. Garvey
Stephanie Lynn Gover
Kathleen R. Neher-Grove
Erin K. Keating
Marlene R. Knaub
Inez Stefanko

Alpha Upsilon

Carol J. Fraser
Jennifer B. Kosior
Patricia A. Uskuraitis

Alpha Phi

Elizabeth Johnen
Rhiannon Miller

Beta Alpha

Sharon McCallum
Loretta S. Zink

Beta Beta

Judy K. Tyson

Beta Gamma

Carol Fahringer
Joanna Kapinos
Sarah Metallo

Beta Epsilon

Kimberly M. Hostetler
Leslie Page Rupp
Joselle M. Skelley
Amy S. Spangler
Heather B. Thomas
Claudine J. Yuhas

Beta Iota

Michelle Lewis
Kelly Mahler
Karen Potok

Beta Kappa

Beverly Ann Utz

Beta Mu

Anne Ziegler

Beta Pi

Carolyn Walsh
Nicole Angello
Jo Cressor

Shannon Doyle Lotz
Idamae Reznor

Beta Rho

Virginia L. Amoroso
Teresa Cavalier
Kay E. Doerner
Gail L. Franko
Kathleen E. F. Host
Susan R. Kilmer
Brandi M. Miller
MaDonna Munley
Linda M. Sherman
Sue L. Turner



(Budget from page 2)

It is also not too late for Chapter Vice Presidents to send your evaluation forms related to the stipends for the Treasurer, Keystonian Editor and Webmaster. The final item I am still looking for from many chapters is the Finance Committee Chapter report that was due on February 1. It is Form 40 and should have been sent to chapter Finance Chairs from the International office.

To all the finance chairs throughout the state, please refer to the Guidelines document for record keeping. If you do not have one, please send for one from the International Society. Since it is that time of the year to review all records, please be aware that chapter bank statements should be maintained for four years as well as all receipts and budget reports. Copies of (see Finance Chairs page 10)

In Memoriam

Joan Peters

January 27, 2014

Beta Rho

Joan was a 54 year member of Delta Kappa Gamma and served at the chapter, state, and international levels. She served as president of Beta Rho and held chairmanship of most committees. Her love and knowledge of the Society will be missed beyond measure. She taught English and Latin at Mt. View School District for 38 years. Joan volunteered in the school after retirement. She also served as a leader in PASR.

Erva Arlene Pascarella

January 18, 2014

Alpha Sigma

Erva was a retired kindergarten teacher with a passion for working with her students.

Elizabeth A. Scott

January 15, 2014

Sigma

Elizabeth was President 2010-2012, 1st Vice President 2008-2010, and 2nd Vice President 2006-2008 for Sigma. She also served on various chapter committees and projects. She taught English for Shamokin Area High School in Coal Township, PA and at St. Mary's Parochial School in Kulpmont, PA. Elizabeth was a commissioner for the Boy Scouts, A Girl Scout leader, a former cheerleading coach and advisor to the yearbook and student council.

Barbara Ginther Huber

December 2013

Alpha Xi

Barbara was a First Grade teacher in the Moon Area School District

Faye J. Smith

December 30, 2013

Lambda

She was chapter President 1968-69 and served on many committees. She was an expert on history and research. Faye was an elementary teacher and librarian in the Grove City Area and the North Hills School District in Pittsburgh.

Sharon A. Walsh

Alpha Theta

December 19, 2013

Sharon was a Past President of her chapter and involved in all aspects of DKG. She was a math teacher in the Armstrong School District for 34 years. She was a member of PSEA and ASA. Sharon was also an advisor for the National Honor Society.

Sally A. Williams

Xi

November 9, 2013

Sally was president of Xi 1980-1982. She also held the offices of 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, and Treasurer. She was a math teacher in the Blue Mt. School District.

Mary Connelly McCormick

May 3, 2013

Beta Rho

Mary was Communications Chair and Hostess for DKG. She was a librarian for the Blue Ridge School District for 35 years.

Mary Alice Redin

March 16, 2013

Alpha Mu

Mary was President of Alpha Mu from 1986-1988. She lived with her husband, William, in Warren, PA

Barbara A. Pilotti

Beta Omicron

February 3, 2013

Barbara served on various committees and supported her local chapter in any way that was needed. She taught in the Coatesville Area School District for 43 years. At Benner Elementary, she taught the 4th grade and finished her career teaching kindergarten at the Caln Elementary School. Barbara was President of the Coatesville Area Teachers Association and also served as secretary. After retiring in 2008, she became the secretary for the Chester County's PSEA Retired.

You can remember her only that she is gone or cherish her memory and let it live on. David Harkins

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Alpha Alpha State Convention Schedule

The Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA
June 13 - 15, 2014



**ENGAGE
EQUIP
EMPOWER**

Friday, June 13, 2014 Casual Dress

Noon	Check into the Nittany Lion Inn
1:00-7:00	Registration Opens and Raffle Ticket Sales begin in Rotunda Chapter Presidents sign in and collect convention materials Chapter Focus Tables and Info-Fair, Atrium "Hysterical Historical Bingo" Ballroom AB
2:45-3:45	Pre-conference Activities – Please meet in the Atrium
3:00	"Sweet Walk" with Carol Lane Self-Guided – Arboretum Self-Guided – Palmer Museum
5:00-6:30	Chorus Rehearsal, Mt Nittany
6:30-7:00	"First Timers, 101", Assembly
7:15-7:45	Album of Distinction", Presentation of the 2014 candidates for the Album of Distinction by their Chapter Presidents, Ballroom C
7:45-8:15	Reception for the new recipients of the 2014 Album of Distinction, Faculty Staff Club Room
8:15-9:00	Chorus Rehearsal, Mt. Nittany
8:15-9:15	Executive Board Meeting, Assembly
9:15-10:30	Friday Night Fling, "Dancing with Tommy" and Birthday Chapters' Presentations, Board Room 1 and 2

2:15-3:15	Workshop Sessions II (see page 10)
3:20	Procession Rehearsal for Past State Presidents, State Officers, Special Guests, Alumni Ballroom
3:40	Outgoing and Incoming Chapter Presidents, Alumni Ballroom
3:30-4:30	Raffle Ticket sales, Rotunda Focus Tables and Info-Fair, Atrium
4:00	Catholic Mass at Pasquarelli Spiritual Center
4:45	All Raffles and Chapter Focus Tables drawn and posted in Rotunda

Saturday, June 14, 2014 Business Dress

6:45-7:45	Ticketed Continental Breakfast, Alumni Lobby
7:00	"Under 40-ish" Breakfast in President's Suite
7:15-7:45	Chorus Rehearsal, Mt. Nittany
7:30-11:45	Registration and Raffle Ticket Sales, Rotunda
8:00	Presentation of Flags and Procession of Officers, First General Session Keynote Speaker-Mr. Ryan Devlin 2013 Teacher of the Year International Update - Mary Lee Makinen, Northeast Regional Director, Alumni Ballroom
10:30-11:30	Workshop Sessions I - Society Workshops; State Photographer will take photos of incoming chapter presidents at Presidents' Session
11:30-12:00	Focus Tables, Info-Fair, Atrium
11:45	Doors open for Celebration Luncheon
12:00 Noon	Ticketed Celebration Luncheon, Alumni Ballroom Recognition of Birthday Chapters, Recognition of women earning Doctorate, Communication Awards, Musical celebrations

Saturday Evening, June 14, 2014 Best Dress

5:30 -6:00	Chorus Rehearsals, Alumni Ballroom
5:45	Officers and guests photos
6:00	Doors open; Seating for Ticketed Banquet, Alumni Ballroom (convention booklet not needed; a program will be provided)
6:15	Introduction and Procession of Past State Presidents and Head Table Guests Presentation of Incoming and Outgoing Chapter Presidents Ticketed Banquet Keynote by Mary Lee Makinen, Northeast Regional Director Musical Presentation ROSEBUD Recognition Singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma Song Receiving Line for International Guest, Keynote Speakers, State Officers in Alumni Lobby

Sunday, June 15, 2014 Traveling Clothes

7:30-7:50 AM	Spiritual Unity Ceremony, Board Room 2
8:00	Celebration of Life, Assembly
9:00	Ticketed Honors Breakfast, Ballroom
9:45-10:45	Second General Session, Alumni Ballroom Presentation of Scholarships and Enrichment Grants, Retiring of the Flags
11:00-12:00	Check out of Hotel
11:00-12:00	Administrative Board Meeting of Officers and Committee Chairmen in Alumni Lounge ROSEBUD Recognition Singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma Song Receiving Line for International Guest, Keynote Speakers, State Officers in Alumni Lobby

ALPHA ALPHA STATE CONVENTION

Friday, June 13 – Sunday, June 15, 2014

The Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA



**ENGAGE
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**Please print or type ONE NAME per form.
Send this entire form to:**

**BARBARA TOBIAS, CONVENTION TREASUR
2165 Long Lane, Lebanon, PA 17046-1850
717-273-0585 batobias7@verizon.net**

Name _____

Title _____ Last _____ First _____ Initial _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Local Chapter _____ Phone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please check ALL pertinent categories:

- Outgoing Chapter President
- Incoming Chapter President
- State Chorus participant
- Doctorate degree in 2013-14
- Sat. p.m. Workshop Presenter
- First Timer to Convention
- Member under 40-ish years of age* (*Complimentary Saturday breakfast*)
- Member initiated in 1974 or earlier
- Honorary Member or Guest
- Chapter Focus Table (include \$40 or \$100 if needing electric)

Registration (non-refundable, postmarked on or before May 13, 2014.) Late registrations between May 14-May 31.

No reservations or cancellations may be made after May 31, 2014. Tickets will be collected for all meal functions.

Checks payable to The Delta Kappa Gamma Society. (If you must cancel, please call 717-273-0585.)

Weekend	\$30.00	\$ _____
OR One Day: Friday, June 13	10.00	
Saturday, June 14	20.00	
Sunday, June 15	10.00	

Late Registrations (Postmarked between May 14-May 31)..... Double above _____

MEALS:	Saturday, June 14, 2014	
	Continental Breakfast*	13.50 _____
	Celebration Luncheon.....	25.00 _____
	Presidents' Banquet	45.00 _____
	Sunday, June 15, 2014	
	Breakfast Buffet.....	18.50 _____

note: Menus will be posted on our web site. For special dietary needs, contact Barb Tobias directly by May 14, 2014.

TOTAL \$ _____

WORKSHOP REGISTRATIONS REQUIRED FOR SATURDAY p.m.

Please check one of the following:

- CFAs on PEI**
- Forgotten Women in PA History**
- A Summer Bouquet**
- Turbocharged Teaching w/Technology**
- Great Geocache!**
- Getting to Know Our International Guest**

Legislative Heartbeat

by Regina Campbell, US Forum/UN Liaison

After two years, *The Shriver Report: A Woman's Nation Pushes Back from the Brink*, has been re-released documenting stories from women across the nation who live with financial insecurity. Over 42,000,000 U.S. women live in fear of unstable finances.

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/v8plcc>.

SOME FEATURED POSTS FROM THE SHRIVER REPORT CAN BE FOUND AT WEBSITES:

Gender Equality Is a Myth! by Beyonce Knowles-Carter, 01.12.2014

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/rtrlcc>

Gender equality isn't a reality yet. Women make up half of the U.S. workforce, but the average working woman earns only 77% of the average working man. Things will not change unless we speak up.

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/7lslcc>

America's Working Single Mothers: An Appreciation, by LeBron James, 01.12.2014

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/netlcc>,

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/36tlcc>

I am honored to participate in a project

that is trying to help single working mothers, struggling to make a living and raise their children. (That perfectly describes my mother when I was growing up.) Gloria James is a champion too.

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/jzulcc>

10 Things You Can Do to Power a Woman's Nation

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/zrvlcc>

1.12.2014

1. Get *The Shriver Report* at www.Shriver-Report.org. Read it, discuss it, implement it, and pass it on.

2. Get smart. Build a stable foundation for your future by putting college before kids. Women with only a high school diploma are three to four times more likely to live on the financial brink than those with a college degree.

3. Invest in yourself. Today's women and girls need to think of themselves as providers in their families, not provided for. Increase your own earning power, learn about savings plans, and be financially savvy.

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/fkwlcc>

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Maria Shriver met with President Obama in the White House Oval Office to brief him on the findings from her latest Shriver Report. 01.14.2014

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/vxllcc>

Her statement on that meeting.

<http://e2.ma/click/nud8f/7d6q7j/b5xlcc>.

HOPEFUL BUDGET RESTORES SOME EDUCATION FUNDING

We await the results of Congress' voting on a Bill that would fund the U.S. Government for the remainder of the fiscal year. While lost funding would not be totally restored, the Bill does markedly increase funding for critical early learning.

PROMOTING PEACE THROUGH LEARNING. THE 2014 CTAUN CONFERENCE

I will be attending the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations Conference in New York City, January 31. More on this in the next edition of *The Keystonean*.

*Information compiled from Angela Bedenbaugh and Carmela De Marco's U.S. Forum Connections



Convention Reminder

One Chair, Two Chairs, Red Chair, Blue Chairs



In order to launch our fund-raiser for The Pennsylvania Head Start Association at the DKG-PA Convention in June, we have asked each chapter to do the following:

1. Acquire a preschool-sized chair. It may be modern or old, new or used, plastic or wooden. A chapter may choose to obtain more than one chair.

2. Decorate the chair in a motif of your choosing. Paint, decoupage, children's handprints, numbers, letters, words, school or child related pictures.

3. Take your chair to convention. We will set up the chairs to signify a Head Start classroom of empty seats which we want to help fill with this drive.

4. Return to your chapter with your chair and begin to plan how you will use it to raise funds in the coming year. There will be time in the Educational Excellence Committee Workshop at convention for chapter representatives to learn more about the project and share ideas.

Please direct any questions about the project to Melody Hannegan, Project Coordinator, at viatoretis@comcast.net.

(Finance Chairs from page 6)

Membership Form 18 should be maintained for seven years. Thanks to all Chapter Finance Chairs and Treasurers for your diligence in keeping your chapter on firm financial footing.

Budget requests should be sent to Kathleen Kuzmiak at 1819 Windsong Lane, Lancaster, PA 17602 or kkuzmiak@aol.com.

Lodging Reservation Form
Alpha Alpha State Convention
June 13-15, 2014

Penn State Hospitality Services
Central Reservations Dept.
215 Innovation Boulevard
State College, PA 16803
800.233.7505 FAX: 814.863.5004

This form should be sent directly to
Penn State Hospitality Services.
For phone reservations, be sure to mention
our DKG Society ID: #DELF14A

Please Print

Check-in time: 3:00 p.m.

Check-out time: 12:00 noon

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Name _____ E-Mail _____

Address _____ Phone (____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Rooming with _____ one bed _____ two beds

Special Requests _____

Please guarantee your reservation by giving a major credit card number or
advance deposit in the amount of one night's room and tax.
Seventy-two (72) hours advance notice is required for cancellations.

Guarantee: Deposit Amount _____

Or Credit Card Name/Number _____ Expiration date _____

Room Rates (add 8.5% occupancy tax):	Single:	\$132.00 per night
	Double:	\$132.00 per night
	Triple:	\$132.00 per night
	Quad:	\$132.00 per night

Rooms must be occupied by persons making the reservation under DKG Society ID #DELF14A.
Notify hotel if there is a substitute person taking that room

RESERVATION DEADLINE: MAY 14, 2014

There are a limited number of rooms in our block, so please reserve early.
Rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Chapter News

Beta Kappa

Deborah Yargar-Reed, of Beta Kappa and our Alpha Alpha State Photographer, was the subject of a photo published in the *Gettysburg Times*. On December 6, 2013, Deborah, a physical education teacher at Biglerville Elementary School, took 45 students to *Soldiers' National Cemetery* in Gettysburg to place wreaths on the graves. Undaunted by the rain, students



were joined by other volunteers to place 1,600 wreaths to honor all who served their country.

(Darryl Wheeler, of the *Gettysburg Times*, has granted written permission for photo use.)

Beta Omicron

Beta Omicron sponsored a non-dues revenue event at the Coatesville Country Club on October 11, 2013, in order to fund local organizations. Their overall purpose is to maintain a consistent, active community involvement in areas where education can make a difference. In supporting the Coatesville and Downingtown Public Libraries, Summer Reading Programs are provided for children as well as help to cover basic operating expenses. Monetary donations are also given to the Brandywine YMCA for children's memberships and to Samara House, a women's and children's shelter. In addition, three (stipends) scholarships are presented to area high school seniors pursuing college degrees in education.

Although the majority of the items are donated by area businesses and amusements, nearly twenty gift baskets are created and contributed by the membership. Unique hand-made items are also crafted by members, relatives and friends. With over 200 line items there is definitely something for everyone, providing a wonderful afternoon of fun and philanthropy.

Because of the success and the degree of work, this event is held every other year, but profits empower Beta Omicron to provide annually for these organizations and deserving graduates. The chapter has raised over \$30,000 with the past three events.

Beta Theta

At the 50th Birthday Celebration of Beta Theta, Lauren Denk, of Susquehanna Township, was presented a gift of \$500 to continue her education in elementary education at Bloomsburg University. Chapter President Donna Winch, impersonating Louise Harris, the first president of Beta Theta, presented the award. Louise was president when Beta Theta was formed in May, 1963. She taught Latin and English at Susquehanna High School and, in 2010, passed away at the age of 95.



Beta Theta also presented \$500 to Melissa Koontz, another Grant-in-aid recipient. Melissa was unable to attend the celebration because she was graduating from Shippensburg on that day. The meeting was held in the Community Room at Ronald McDonald House in Hershey.



Joint 50th Birthday Celebration of Beta Iota and Beta Theta Chapters at Coldwater Creek.

~WANTED~

WHO: All Talented and Active Members

WHAT: Album of Distinction

WHERE: Alpha Alpha State Convention in State College, PA

WHEN: June 13 thru 15, 2014

WHY: To be recognized for services and/or honors received outside DKG between April 1, 2013 and April 2, 2014.

HOW: Application forms, evaluation criteria, scoring rubric, and instructions for filing applications can be found online at alphaalphapa.com.

Applications due: **APRIL 1, 2014.**

Please note: The Minutes for the First and Second General Sessions of the Alpha Alpha State Convention and the Executive Meeting, held in June, 2013, are available on the state website: alphaalphapa.com.

Session II Convention Workshops

CFAs on PEI

CFAs on Prince Edward Island are NOT “Chartered Financial Analysts.” Those not born on the island are “Come From Aways!” But even CFAs find lots to do. Follow Rita Tamalavage as she details her enrichment grant itinerary through music, posters, recipes, a slideshow, and coffee table books.

Rita Tamalavage

Xi Chapter

A Summer Bouquet

Have you always wished you could create a floral arrangement? Fear not! Liz Lorenz, President of the Bethlehem Garden Club, will walk you through the process of making a simple flower arrangement. You will be able to enjoy your creation in your hotel room and take it home as a memento of your weekend at State College. All materials will be provided. (Maximum of 20 people.)

Liz Lorenz

Delta Chapter

Forgotten Women in Pennsylvania History

The history of women in the past has often been depicted as a secondary one of caring for the wounded in battle, serving at document signings, or standing at the side at election victories. Jean Speight and Stephanie Fulena will present Pennsylvania women with historical significance about whom you may never have known or who were only vaguely mentioned in our history.

Stephanie Fulena & Sallye Jean Speight

Alpha Sigma Chapter

Turbocharged Teaching with Technology

This workshop will highlight a multitude of free educational resources and tools on the internet that are best suited for bored students in grades 5-12. Participants are welcome to bring laptops or ipads, but they are not required. The resources and tools can help you turbocharge your teaching or serve as an assessment tool for project-based learning!

Ryan Devlin

PA’s 2013 Teacher of the Year

Getting to Know Our International Guest

Take the opportunity to meet and greet our representative from International Headquarters. She will be prepared to answer questions about “anything DKG.” Do you want to know more about the Lucile Cornet awards? Perhaps you have been curious about the Leadership Management Seminar. This is your chance to learn more about our Society.

Mary Lee Makinen Northeast Regional Director

Great Geocache!

“I’ve found it. I’ve found it.”

Participants will learn that geocaching is an enriching family-friendly activity in which all age groups can participate. The history and evolution of geocaching will be addressed, in addition to the types of geocaches that exist, the equipment that is needed, geocaching etiquette, and miscellaneous information such as geotrails, souvenirs, trackables, and pathtags. (Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices to locate hidden geocaches.)

Marcia Erickson

Beta Epsilon Chapter



Looking for Alpha Alpha State Convention Choir Singers

If you like to sing and want to meet other DKG singers, then state choir is for YOU! Please contact Shirley Newhart, Visual and Performing Arts State Chairman for more information: snewhart@comcast.net, or 921 Butler Ct, Hummelstown, PA, 17036, 717-439-3043, or register online: alphaalphapa.com. Please note, this is an

opportunity to prepare the music at a first-ever choir retreat in Middletown, PA, on May 2nd & 3rd. Check it out! [@https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formEmail=true&formkey=dE5zRjBTaEFmdnF-PRVZhb1EwcW8yQ3c6MQ](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formEmail=true&formkey=dE5zRjBTaEFmdnF-PRVZhb1EwcW8yQ3c6MQ)

(This retreat is NOT a requirement to participate in State Choir.)

Enrichment Adventures

The Baltic Sea Countries

by Sandra K. Millin, Alpha Delta

My husband and I love to travel, especially to foreign countries we had grown up hearing about on the television or reading about in history books. So we planned a cruise on the Emerald Princess to the Baltic Sea countries. We left from Dulles Airport on the Fourth of July on a direct flight to Copenhagen, Denmark. We arrived the next morning, July 5th, around 7:30 AM their time and were shuttled to the Kong Arthur Hotel. The first thing we discovered was that Copenhagen is a bicycle city and they have the right of way. When exiting the shuttle bus we had to cross over the bike lane, and one person on our bus was about run over by a bicycle getting to our hotel! We rested a while and then started on a walk to the National Museum where we viewed a fantastic display of Viking treasure and artifacts, including a part of a Viking boat. We were surprised to learn that much of the collection had been obtained from Russia, Ireland, England, and Germany, all places that the Vikings had traveled to during their wanderings. The museum holds artifacts from the Upper Paleolithic Period to the 1840's and we didn't have enough time to see all the museum artifacts. On the way back to our hotel we passed the famous Copenhagen landmark, Trivoli, a park area with amusement rides and music.



The second day, **July 6th**, we walked to the Botanical Gardens and observed the beautiful landscapes and multitude of plants and flowers on display. We also passed by Rosenborg Slot, built by King Christian IV in 1606-1633. Later that afternoon we boarded the Emerald Princess to begin our cruise. We went to a lecture about Oslo, Norway, our next stop, which had been founded in the year 1000.

July 7th we docked at Oslo and shortly afterwards, boarded a bus for the outskirts of Oslo. We experienced the beautiful countryside of Jevnaker County which was a mix of fjords and farmland with many orchards. We visited the Hadeland Glassworks and Museum where we observed glass being hand blown. The glassworks is the oldest industrial company in Norway.

While there we were treated to tea and Danish pastry, which is actually Vienna bread, originating from Austrian bakers who migrated to the country. After leaving the glassworks, we traveled to the Viking Ship Museum built in 1927 to house three Viking Ships and other artifacts found in the royal burial mounds of the Oslo fjord. The vessels dated from about 800-900 A.D. The largest ship required 30 rowers. These ships were designed to be burial tombs which included full sized sleighs for the dead to use in the afterlife! Leaving the museum, we passed by the Royal Farm on our return to Oslo. On board, we learned about the local waterways and a sunken WW II Nazi boat.

July 8th we arrived at Aarhus, Denmark, which is the 2nd largest city and largest port in Denmark. In the afternoon we took a tour of the old merchant area of Aarhus. We visited the Aarhus Cathedral and listened to an organ recital. The paintings on the church walls were interesting, especially one where an actual artist was repainting the king's face (ruler at the time). I asked about a small ship hanging from the ceiling and was told that model ships were often seen in area churches because they exemplified the ups and downs of life. We left the merchant area, with beautiful tiled roofs and cobblestone streets, and went to Den Gamle By Museum. We tried to see most of the 75 half-timbered buildings known as the oldest open air museum, founded in 1914 by a **teacher** who wanted to preserve Denmark's history for generations to come. We ate some Danish cookies, saw a wonderful toy museum, and visited the older buildings of the "town."

July 9th we got up early and left for Berlin, Germany, a 3 hour train ride passing many scenic farms and small towns. Our first stop in Berlin was a museum which included an American GI movie theater, a British plane used in the Berlin airlift, a piece of the Berlin Wall, and the actual Checkpoint Charlie building from the Cold War. The building you see at the Brandenburg Gate is a replica. The Brandenburg Gate represents a symbol of division during the Cold War. The building of the gate began in 1789 and was completed in 1791, served as a royal gate for that part of Berlin. It stands over Periser Platz where Hitler's troops paraded during WWII. We also saw the restored Reichstag, the legislature building. Our impression of Berlin was one of a

(see Gate, page 15)

(Gate, from page 14)

rebuilt city with tons of construction still going on. It was very noticeable that Berlin lacked very old building structures due to the extensive bombing of the city in WWII. We did travel to see where part of the Berlin Wall still stands.



July 10th was spent at sea, sailing to Tallinn, the capital city of Estonia, arriving on **July 11th**. The Estonians are distant cousins of the Finns. Our tour guide was wonderful. She was in her forties and had grown up under restrictive Russian control. She had never tasted a banana until she was in her 20's. As a child, she believed her grandfather had died on a vacation trip, not as a political prisoner who died in Siberia. Her parents were afraid that if their children knew the truth and talked about it to other children and the information would eventually reach the authorities they feared being arrested. She also said that the Estonians thought it a big joke when the Russians held the 1980 Olympic boating events in Estonia because keeping or have boats was not permitted. The Russians were afraid Estonians would sail off to Sweden and freedom. Television subject matter was also censored and only those movies that showed America in a bad light, such as West Side Story with its violence and gangs, would be broadcasted. Most of television was Russian propaganda with a few commercials from Finland. Travel restrictions were such that it was even difficult to travel to East Berlin or Russia. Life today in a free Estonia is a much better way of life, compared to Russian control.

Our first tour stop in Estonia was Toompea Hill. The Upper Town was the mainstay of the Bishop and Knights, whereas the Lower Town contained commercial businesses. We visited St. Mary's Cathedral, known as The Dome Church. The oldest church in Tallinn, it had a baroque interior with spires and over 60 medieval coats of arms hung in the church. We also toured the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, a historic Russian Orthodox Cathedral from the time of the Russian tsars. It had beautiful "onion" domes with golden crosses, mosaics, and icons.



July 12th we arrived in St. Petersburg, Russia, for a two day tour. Peter the Great wanted to move the Russian capital from Moscow to the St. Petersburg area, a swamp at that time, because he wanted an outlet to the Baltic Sea. He also wanted it to reflect the same opulence seen in other European countries, such as France.



Our first stop was the magnificent Peterhof Palace. The gardens and outstanding fountains would rival Versailles. The fountains were designed by Peter himself and are an engineering marvel. Water was obtained from springs which led into canals by gravity flow. A series of sluices regulated the flow of the water. Each day the water is turned on and the fountains spring to life. There are over 70 fountains with some 250 sculptures and bas-reliefs made of bronze, lead and marble. The Samson fountain is a standout and was installed in 1735 to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Battle of Poltava.



During WW II, the Nazis occupied Peterhof Palace for three years and trashed it. It was also bombed in WWII but has since been restored to its former glory. Next we traveled to the Yusupov Palace, the site of the Rasputin's murder on Dec. 16, 1916. Members of the aristocratic families and royal circles felt that the Siberian peasant monk was a bad influence on Tsar Nicholas II and his wife Alexandra.

After lunch we visited St. Isaac's Cathedral with beautifully painted ceilings. It is the 4th largest domed cathedral of its type in the world. Its central dome is covered with 220 pounds of pure gold and was built over the course of 40 years, 1818-1858. Later that day we attended the Russian ballet of Swan Lake at the State Ballet and Opera Theatre, St. Petersburg Conservatoire, built in 1896. We learned that Stalin didn't like sad endings so he had another composer add a happy ending to Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake. We wondered why our tour guide wanted us to stay for the *entire* performance. Apparently, those who believe art shouldn't be messed with get up and leave before the last scene, to avoid the revised Stalin ending. But to our surprise, the actors returned and performed Tchaikovsky's ending. We returned to the ship amid the "White Nights" of the Russian summer, even though it was late at night.

July 13th we boarded a canal boat for a water tour of St. Petersburg, Russia. Afterwards we toured a small part of The Hermitage, The Winter Palace, which is actually made up of five buildings. It was constructed between 1754 and 1762 to serve as the main residence of the ruler of the Russian Empire. Peter the Great's daughter Elizabeth started the construction, but died before it was finished. The new tsar, Peter III, and his wife Catherine II, moved into the building. Catherine II (Catherine the Great) ordered the construction of the Small Hermitage, 1764, to house her expanding collec-

(Catherine from page 15)

tion of artworks, including 225 canvases by renowned Western European masters. Today the Hermitage collection numbers about three million exhibits. The main staircase is a grand site to see, with the use of white walls, floors, and golden trim. St. George Hall, the throne room, also has white Carrara marble and a ceiling adorned with gilded ornamentation. The parquet floors are made of 16 different kinds of woods and the collection of artwork would take years and years to see. Cezanne, Rembrandt, Renoir, da Vinci, and Michelangelo are among the artists displayed. One of the most interesting objects was a clock, called Peacock, which had several animals in it. It was constructed by James Cox, an Englishman, during the mid 1700's. Lunch was at the Star Palace where champagne and vodka were served again with the meal.



Our next stop was the unbelievably beautiful *Church of the Resurrection of Christ of the Savior on the Spilled Blood*. This restored building was originally built on the site of the March 1st, 1881, assassination of Tsar Alexander II. Outstanding beauty is seen in the Holy Gate of the Main Chancel and the "onion" domes outside. We then toured the Peter and Paul Cathedral, the tombs of the tsars, containing Peter the Great, Alexander II and his wife, and the remains of Emperor Nicholas II and his family, placed there in 1998. Nicholas II was the last tsar of Russia who was shot to death in Ekaterinbrug, along with the rest of his family, June, 1918.



July 14th we arrived in Helsinki, Finland. We took a bus through the city to an old steam engine train, Lili, for a trip across the beautiful countryside. Arriving in Porvoo, Finland's second oldest city, we walked over Porvoo's Old Bridge and traversed cobblestone streets lined with ancient half-timbered houses. We saw the old Town Hall, a Lutheran Cathedral built on a hill, and the town



square. We lunched at the gorgeous Haikko Manor, a sight visited by tsars and their families in years past. In Helsinki we visited the town square and walked 47 steps up to the large St. Nicholas Lutheran Cathedral. We then boarded the bus to visit the "Rock Church," Tempeliahaukio, built for Finnish speaking Lutherans to hold services in Swedish. St. Nicholas is called the Rock Church because it was built right into the rocky ground. Only the ceiling is above ground, making it look like a gigantic upside down copper bowl. It was beautiful inside and had great acoustics.



July 15th we arrived in Stockholm, Sweden and rode a bus to the Old Town area, Gamla Stan, where we walked on cobblestone streets surrounded by 16th century buildings. At the Royal Palace, we toured the Royal Armory. It contained old armor and clothing, worn by royalty, and a collection of old carriages. The bomb shelter entrance was used by Swedish royalty during WW II. We drove to the Vasa Ship Museum, which houses the Vasa, a ship designed by Gustavus II to be the most powerful ship of its age. It was completed in 1628. During construction, the king would not listen to the concerns of his ship builders who thought it unwise to build the ship higher than it should have been. On its maiden voyage, the Vasa, with all its gun ports open to show off its greatness, sailed a short distance, rocked back and forth, and sank. It was preserved in the harbor mud until 1956 when it was raised. It is the oldest, fully preserved ship on display in the world today.



July 16th was our last day on the Baltic Sea, sailing to Copenhagen, Denmark for our flight home on **July 17th**. As an added bonus, our flight took us over Greenland with views of ice flows and glaciers.

I want to thank Delta Kappa Gamma for the Alpha Alpha State Enrichment Grant which paid for many of the tours I took while on the Baltic Sea cruise. I saw places I never dreamed of seeing. Thank you.

Co-Authoring with Susan Winebrenner

by Lisa Kiss, Nu Chapter

I never imagined the journey on which I was about to embark when author Susan Winebrenner called me on December 31, 2011. She asked if I would consider co-authoring the third edition of her current book entitled *Teaching Kids with Learning Difficulties*

in the Regular Classroom. It was an exciting, but fearful, proposition. Could I really be an author?

Susan Winebrenner is the author of five publications showcasing her expertise in the area of education

(see Showcase page 17)

(Showcase from page 16)

for students with special needs at both ends of the learning continuum, including special education and gifted education. I met her at a Special Education Administrator's conference in Hershey PA when I attended her break-out session, "Cluster Grouping: How to Challenge Gifted Students and Improve Achievement for All." During the session, I participated in the discussion and shared how her Cluster Grouping model not only benefited our districts' gifted students, but had many positive outcomes for the students with learning difficulties, as well. We hit it off immediately and discussed gifted education, differentiation, and current educational trends. She recognized that my special education training and experience would help her book reflect current best practices for students with learning difficulties.

I had never published professional articles before so I had little idea what the process would be like. Before agreeing to let me work as a contributing author, the publisher, Free Spirit Publications, asked me to submit three writing samples. I wrote about Autism, Functional Behavior Analysis (FBA), and Common Core Standards (CCS). All three topics were subjects that would be included in *Teaching Kids with Learning Difficulties in Today's Classroom*. Free Spirit granted their approval and my writing continued.

Since Susan resides in San Diego, CA, we utilized Drop Box to view and share documents as we communicated through phone conversations. Eventually we switched to Google docs with much greater success and much less frustration. To supplement phone conferences to work on the book's revisions, we also met in a variety of locations such as Hershey PA, Chicago IL, and San Marcos, CA.

My personal goals for this new adventure were far surpassed. I initially thought that the knowledge gained would improve my leadership of the Special Education program at my school district. I hoped to learn as much as I could from Susan about her experiences in educating students who were at different educational levels. I wanted to see if I had the capability of sharing my vast experiences in the classroom with other educators through the venue of writing and presenting at conferences.

I have over twenty years of experience working with students with learning difficulties. I thought it would be easy to share my experiences and knowledge with other educators, but writing for a formal venue was anything but easy. I worked hard to improve my written expression skills so that Susan and I sounded like the voice of one person. I also worked hard on writing clear, concise explanations so that fellow educators could understand.

When we met in Hershey, Chicago, and San Diego, we would get ready for a day of intense writing soon after we woke up. Susan always started with a good breakfast, and I quickly learned why. Though not physically grueling, writing exercises your mental abilities as much as a marathon does your physical abilities. We would write all morning, break for lunch, write all afternoon, reward ourselves with dinner, and often continue writing into the evening until the words just didn't seem to be flowing anymore. We would repeat the same routine every day we were together. As grueling as this seems, it was rewarding to read the final product of our daily efforts.

Collaborating with Susan has allowed me not only to have the experience of being a contributing author, but I have also gained confidence as a writer. I realized that I often assumed, perhaps incorrectly, that all my colleagues shared much of the same knowledge I gained over my years of teaching. I needed to find ways of sharing this knowledge so that more students would benefit from our collective wisdom and confidence.

This enrichment grant enabled me to travel and work with Susan Winebrenner. I was stretched beyond what I ever thought was possible in my field of education. The reality that this collaboration will be published in 2015 is beyond my wildest dreams. I hope to share this publication with my Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters at the 2015 Pennsylvania State Convention. I also hope to present this work for International.

The support provided through this grant has been greatly appreciated. This publication, *Teaching Kids with Learning Difficulties in Today's Classroom*, will empower educators with strategies to develop successful learning outcomes for their students with learning difficulties. Thank you.



Susan and Lisa on San Marcos Lake near Susan's home, San Diego

My Highland Fling by Judith Shaffer, Alpha Upsilon

Scotland is my favorite place! I go there by either delving into a good Scottish novel or by physically visiting the country. I've been there three times. I have begun collecting Scottish books so that I can become Gaelic at whim. Trip #1 was an overview Globus vacation covering England, Scotland and Wales. Trip #2, taken four years ago, was a planned graduation gift for my niece where we visited more places within Scotland, but the Highlands were still calling to me. So, my latest trip was in September, 2013.

Trip #3 was the Road Scholar adventure called "Heart of the Highlands" featuring the Aigas Field Centre. Flying internationally has lost a lot of its glamour and as a single traveler, my trip over the pond and back left me with memories that I would like to forget. Delays, lost flight connections, and being stranded in Toronto late at night, were just some journey ordeals, culminating in the unexpected death of my mother.

However, I loved my time spent in the Highlands! Thank you to Delta Kappa Gamma for the Enrichment Grant. It helped provide a wonderful learning experience about nature and the Scottish people.

The Aigas Field Centre's motto is, "Sharing the Wonders of the Wild Highlands." Aigas is Scotland's first and foremost centre for nature study where qualified and dedicated rangers lead you over the wild highlands and islands to seek out and understand the unique and celebrated natural environment of this part of the world. The *Aigas Experience* is the family home of Sir John and Lady Lister-Kaye. Sir John is the author of several nature books including *SONG OF THE ROLLING EARTH*, required reading for my trip. He and his wife have royal lineage and are related to England's Prince Charles.

Beginning in Edinburgh, Warwick Lister-Kaye, son and manager of Aigas, hosted my Road Scholar trip. By providing educational, behind-the-scenes experience unavailable to other travelers, a Road Scholar trip combines vacation with true learning experiences via lectures and field trips.

We visited Auchendinny House, home of the McCulloch family for over 300 years. Family friends of the Lister-Kayes, we saw and heard how this family is struggling to keep the house intact, showing their pride in its deep historical roots. I appreciated learning about the problems of Scottish nobility dealing with today's

economics. We then journeyed north to Aigas via the beautiful and dramatic scenery of Loch Lomond, Glencoe and Loch Ness. (Alas, I did not see Nessie.)

Aigas Field Centre has been in operation for 36 years and presents all types of nature studies. I was there with a group of bird watchers, a mushroom study group, and a wildlife group. Housing is provided in timber lodges within the estate and, naturally, mine was the furthest from the main house. Meals were served in the baronial hall overseen by Cordon Bleu trained Lady Lucy Lister-Kaye. Each meal was a Scottish culinary delight.

Packing for this trip required hiking boots, a water-proof jacket, layered clothing for all types of weather, camera and binoculars. I rented my special Swarovski binocs at the Centre and lived in my yellow outdoor coat which the guides used as a focal point to keep the group together. My mornings began at 6:00 AM with an early walk around the loch or estate gardens, breakfast at 7:45 AM, an informational ranger talk about the day's activities, and then a trip to a nature site. Each day we traveled to another area in the Highlands, arriving back by 5:00 PM. Weather conditions made no difference in the schedule. One day I hiked in the rain in the Caledonian Forest Reserve, Glen Affric, identifying trees, birds, and mushrooms. Evenings were spent hearing nature talks or night trips to view wildlife in the estate's night-blinds. I took a late-night bat walk with a transmitter to detect different species by their sounds. Since February, 2011, Aigas has been breeding Scottish wildcats for reintroduction into the Highlands, so I also spent time in a blind watching them.

One jaunt was a two hour Ecoventure boat trip on Moray Firth looking for bottle-nose dolphins and other sea life. The specially designed rigid inflatable had seats resembling saddles which, on especially rough days, left you saddle-sore. I was positioned at the front of the boat on a rough day and guess what?

We visited a local croft farm with an unique vegetable garden owned and operated by Ann and Archie (neighbors of the Lister-Kayes). Crofting is a form of land tenure and small-scale food production where crofters are listed at the bottom of the social hierarchy.

Historical lectures were followed by site visits to Culloden, Cawdor Castle, Urquhart Castle, and the Black Isle. The last three days of the



Cawdor Castle/Group Shot

(see Scotland page 19)

I Wish I Was in Dixie by Barbara Emmer, Psi Chapter

That dream was fulfilled in the fall of 2013 when I took an Elderhostel tour using an Enrichment Grant from Alpha Alpha State. Both the tour and the grant were goals of mine as I sat at many a presentation for scholarships and grants awarded state convention. “I am going to apply,” I would say with genuine resolve and then forget about it till I saw Janet Lee Hay or Lois Brown introduce the new crop of winners.

Now, I am a winner.... The ten-day tour, called a *Southern Coastal Trilogy: Charleston, Savannah, and Jekyll Island*, began in South Carolina with an in-depth orientation by a renowned local historian. We then traversed a rich 300 year history by visiting the French Quarter, Middleton and Magnolia plantations, City Market Place, and the planters’ town houses in Charleston harbor historic district. Evening programs included cultural demonstrations such as weaving coiled sweetgrass baskets, authentic to lowcountry slaves.

Of special note was a visit to the Citadel, a top public college of the South, dating back to 1842. It still insists on strong academics, physical prowess, and military discipline. Grads, however, do not have to serve in the armed forces as a condition of acceptance. Of the 2,250 undergraduate corps of cadets and 1,110 civilian evening students, about 50% are from South Carolina. Other states and 10 foreign countries provide the rest.

On route to Savannah, we stopped in Beaufort (pronounced Boo-for), South Carolina, where Southern charm abounded with antebellum mansions, a sail-dotted bay, horse-drawn sightseeing carriage rides, for and tributes to author Pat Conroy. The architecture is uniquely appealing and has been seen in films such as “The Big Chill,” “Prince of Tides,” and “Midnight in

the Garden of Good and Evil.”

Savannah, a true garden city, was a walkable adventure of greened, shady squares and historic monuments everywhere. As a former girl scout, I had to see Juliette Gordon Low’s birthplace and discovered her more unconventional than I expected. Likewise, Georgia’s founder, James Oglethorpe, insisted his colony would not permit alcohol, slavery, Roman Catholics or attorneys. (How did that work out, James?) After a city trolley tour, we visited Old Fort Jackson, the Peach State’s oldest standing brick fortification. A cannonball demonstration bombarded the area, highlighting Savannah’s vulnerability and the inherent danger of munitions.

Southern cuisine was exquisite - shrimp, fried chicken, she-crab soup, artillery punch, pecan pie, key lime pie, etc. While I didn’t get to Paula Deen’s *Lady & Sons Restaurant*, I didn’t feel cheated since all my Southern meals were exceptionally good.

Jekyll Island was the final destination. Originally, it was a private playground for rich empire builders like Rockefeller, Morgan, Vanderbilt, Pulitzer, and Astor. Their gilded era club was described in the *Munsey Magazine* (Feb. 1904 issue) as “the richest, the most exclusive, the most inaccessible club in the world.” A top secret December, 1904, meeting of financial men and industrialists, created the Federal Reserve in response to financial panics. The grounds were impressive, the lodgings lovely, and the dining room first rate. Beachside, we had interactive lessons on the ocean ecosystem from the Georgia Sea Turtle Center and a pre-dinner chef’s seafood bake. The day’s highlight was a remarkable program by the Ring Shouters, the same professional entertainers who performed Gullah lyrical shouts and dances for President Obama in January and earlier to Queen Elizabeth. What a spectacular end to my Dixie excursion. My thanks to “ya’all” for a learning experience unlike any other.

(Scotland from page 18)

were spent on the Isle of Skye learning about Armadale Castle, riding one of the last turntable ferries, and examining Dun Telve Broch. No trip is complete without a chance to see Eilean Donan Castle, the most photographed castle in Scotland.



Urquharat Castle/LochNess

Our final day included a visit to Dundreggan to view and hear about Trees for Life, one of the leading conservation volunteering charities in the UK. We hiked

up a trail on the property to view the wild boar breeding enclosure. Scotland is also reintroducing this species into the Highlands to control the bracken growth. Wild boars are the only animals that will eat bracken.



I not only left my heart in the highlands, but I donated money to plant a tree in my name. There is still much to learn and see in Scotland.

I WILL BE BACK!



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Bonnie Lee Barnes, Editor
504 East Maitland Lane
New Castle, PA 16105-1420
iberrylady@aol.com

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Use *Keystonian* in the subject line when emailing articles and jpeg photos.

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(A column to answer your questions about DKG.)

Question: I am the Communications Chair for my chapter. I am responsible for writing the chapter's newsletter and updating the chapter's website. How do I protect myself from copyright infringement when using graphics and/or photographs?

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