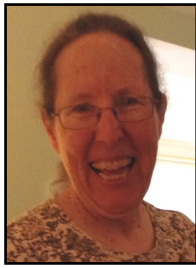


Gamma Alpha NEWSNOTES

October-December 2016

President's Message

Gamma Gals,



Welcome to a new DKG Biennium! As most of you already know, DKG chapters run on 2-year cycles so we are just now starting the 2016-2018 biennium. State chapters also run on 2-year cycles but the new cycle for the state organizations will go from 2017-2019. That avoids the mass confusion that would result from all officers starting out new at once. Hopefully things won't be TOO confused as we in Gamma Alpha transition, but there IS a learning curve! I'd really like to thank Kay Shelnut and Maria Gold for helping me out so much to get things underway.

I think Kay and her committee has come up with some interesting program ideas. I know I have gotten a lot out of programs in the past—remember our trips to the State and National Archives? And Spivey Hall? And one on nursing home insurance? (very useful!) I even remember way back to hearing a speaker who had climbed Mt. Everest—my first DKG meeting ever! I appreciate all the hard work that went into getting those and many other programs together in the past. Hope you find this year's as informative!

Maria has spent a lot of time putting together our yearbook. Please check it out to see what committees you are on and, chairs, please contact your members to get to work! (My English penpal said she hoped I had a good committee to help me with this job, and I told her I had 17 committees!!!)

I hope to see ALL of you soon. We've had a couple members with prolonged illnesses, and I'm really hoping they will be up to joining us in the NEAR future. It's all about enjoying and learning from each other!

Anne McCallum
President, Gamma Alpha



State Name
PSI State

2015-17 PSI State Theme
Get Connected

Mission Statement
The Delta Kappa Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Purposes

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education
4. To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators
5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries
6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action
7. To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society

Chapter Name

Gamma Alpha, serving Clayton

Meeting Info

Date: Saturday, October 15, 2016
Time: 10 AM
Purpose: Brunch Meeting
Location: Home of Debbie Durden
2583 Orchard Walk, Jonesboro
Program: Story Teller arranged by Pat Perry



Date: Thursday, December 1, 2016
Time: 5:30 PM
Purpose: Holiday Dessert Party
Location: Home of Kay Shelnut
8218 Winston Way, Jonesboro
Program: Game Night



Happy Birthday

Oct. 28 Cathy Asemota
Nov. 6 Jane Bain
Nov. 9 Carol Frediani
Nov. 17 Sharon Foster
Dec. 13 Peggy Capell
Dec. 20 Anne McCallum



September Meeting

Our dinner meeting was held at Gina's Bistro in Jonesboro. Before dinner, Maria distributed our new chapter directories, and Arolue led us in a get-to-know each other scavenger hunt. After dinner, our new president, Anne McCallum, made several important announcements, and Kay introduced our speaker, Penny Conner, RN, BSN, Georgia State Immunization Consultant. After an informative presentation, donated school supplies were distributed to Cathy Asemota to use in her classroom.

Wear Your Name Plate: Be sure to wear your DKG nameplate to each meeting. We have in place the \$1 "fine" for forgetting. Don't get rid of the spare change in your purse until you come to the business meetings. We will have piggy bank to feed with spare change. These donations will increase funding for scholarships etc. without too many extra fundraisers.

Infusion of the Biennium Theme: During 2015-2017, we will implement the biennium theme "Get Connected" with the emphasis on community involvement by the chapter and the individual.

Website Update

Please view our state and international websites:



DKG International:
<https://www.dkg.org>

Psi State:
www.dkgga.weebly.com

Gamma Alpha Chapter:
<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/GA-gammaalpha/>



When we get outside and do something physical, we feel refreshed, more energetic, more clearheaded, and better prepared to deal with the challenges of the day.

Officers (2016 - 2018)

President	Anne McCallum
1st Vice-President	Cathy Asemota
2nd Vice-President	Kay Shelnett
Rec. Secretary	Carol Frediani
Corr. Secretary	Roxanne Crumbley
Treasurer	Debbie Durden
Parliamentarian	Helen Brown

Newsletter Editors
Joyce Swofford Martha Wicker



Important Dates

- September 24, 2016 - State Executive Board, Macon, GA
- October 15, 2016 - Brunch Meeting, 10 AM @ Debbie Durden's home
- October 31, 2016 - Deadline for Paying Membership Dues to Debbie Durden
- December 1, 2016 - Holiday dessert party @ Kay Shelnett's home
- February 1, 2017 - Applications for grants and scholarships due
- April 28-30, 2017 - State Convention, Athens, GA
- July, 19-22, 2017 - SE Regional Convention, Myrtle Beach, SC

Address Changes

If your mailing address or emailing address changes, contact Margaret Tarrant.

DKG TECHNOLOGY

Use your member ID for the username and the default password, dkg2014society, to set your member portal @ <https://www.dkg.org> (click on MyDKG). Keep your ID card handy to access events, dates, data and the new members-only website. The DKG store is also accessible for our ordering of forms, certificates, supplies etc. GOOGLE Docs, GOOGLE Forms, GOOGLE Calendar, GOOGLE Groups, and GOOGLE handouts are free research and communication tools for DKG members

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dkgorg

Twitter: @DKG_SI

Instagram: @DKGSI

Pinterest: www.pinterest.com/DKGSi

YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/DKGAustin

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/delta-kappa-gamma-society-international

The Georgia Organization (Psi State) is sending an email to all state DKG members. If you haven't received one of these broadcast emails, please check your personal information online and confirm your email address. The Psi State webpage www.dkgga.weebly.com.

Applause For ...

- Programs are underway and we finally found a place to party in Sept. — Thanks to KAY and her committee!!!
- Yearbook and Directory are finished—Thanks to MARIA!!!
- Budget is finished (we will approve at our Oct. meeting) Thanks to DEBBIE!!
- Carol who gets the minutes done so well and out to us in such a timely manner and to those who read them and help keep everything accurate!
- You are reading a newsletter—Thanks to Martha and Joyce!!
- And THANKS to whoever you are that I know I forgot—it takes a lot of teamwork to pull this all together.

Final Thought by Anne McCallum

Teaching was a lot of hard work and now that it's behind me, I don't think about it all that often. I sure don't miss the piles of papers or the early-morning hours or the exhaustion. But last week, I was looking for some table decorations that said "fall"—just some simple colored leaves—without having to drive 20 miles. Party City was full of aisles of dismembered corpses and costumes I sure would not want my granddaughter (IF I had one) to appear in in public. Stymied in my search for simple fall colors, the school supply store occurred to me and, sure enough, there's a place where fall could mean something besides Halloween! It occurred to me that there was something reassuring and wholesome about the teaching scene after all, and I was grateful to have been a part of it!

Getting to Know Us

This page of the next few newsletters will help us learn more about each other and each of our unique relationships with Gamma Alpha. This month we are hearing from two Gamma Alpha ladies in our chapter: Suzanne Williams and Roxanne Crumbly.

Suzanne Williams



My name is Suzanne Stroud Williams and I'm one of the newest members of Gamma Alpha. I've lived in Clayton County for sixty years. Before retiring in 2011, I taught various elementary grade levels, and the last five years I was a Literacy Coach in Henry County.

I graduated from Forest Park High School in 1971 and LaGrange College in 1975. I have been married to my best friend, Al, for thirty six years. We have three beautiful daughters--Katie, Anna, and Alyson—and each one of these girls has given us a grandson.

Liam is almost 4, Rhys is 2, and Archer will be 2 next month! These boys are the joy of my life, and I spend lots of quality time with them.

When I'm not babysitting I love to knit, read, and shop! I'm happy to be a new Gamma Gal!

Roxanne Crumbly

I was born in Atlanta and both sides of my family are from Atlanta. Raised in a two-parent home with one sibling and a french poodle, my family lived in Decatur, Georgia, until I finished high school. During my formative years metro Atlanta was a blip on the map compared to today; I-285 had not been built and I-20 West stretched only to Villa Rica. McDonald's was the only fast-food restaurant on my side of town and the closest I got to Chinese or Thai food was inside the Encyclopedia Britannica. Now I no longer recognize the city in which I was raised.

One of my fondest childhood memories is riding with my mother in our green Chevrolet with fins on the back to the large public library on the square in downtown Decatur and checking out their limit of three easy-reader books. I loved learning to read and being transported in my mind to all the imaginary places described in these books. For many hours I pretended to play school on the chalkboard in my mother's kitchen. These early childhood experiences influenced my decision to become an educator. Unfortunately, shock waves washed over me many years later during my student teaching when I discovered

managing a real classroom requires a lot more skills than playing pretend teacher in Mama's kitchen.

My high school part-time job in the women's sportswear department at Rich's (now Macy's) reinforced my thinking life would be incomplete without a college degree. In 1973 I graduated from Columbia High School, sprouted wings, and packed my suitcase for the University of Georgia in Athens (UGA). It seemed like a brave move for a girl who had never lived anywhere except Decatur and had parents who kept her on a short string.

While serving as president of my high school's Junior Civitan Club, I was a volunteer parapro with autistic children in the self-contained unit at DeKalb County's South Metro Special Ed Center. The joy of working with these children reinforced my belief a career in education was my destiny.

Initially interested in teaching young children, I declared Elementary Education as my major. Three quarters short of graduation, I had a change of heart and switched my major to Business Education with a focus on management and accounting. I reasoned a change in majors would allow me the flexibility to work in a business or educational setting. In 1978 I graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Science in Business Education and a minor in Elementary Education. I was recognized by my professors as one of the top three students in the School Of Business Education at UGA.

I immediately accepted a job teaching business education classes at Morrow High School in Clayton County. Nervously arriving on the first day of the school year, I looked so young and green behind the ears the coaches manning the teachers' parking lot firmly redirected me several times to the student parking lot. I showed them I could protest better than a student with senioritis; they let me stay. I enjoyed teaching at Morrow High School for eleven years. In addition to my teaching duties, I sponsored the JV cheerleaders and the student council.

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Getting to Know Us

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As a young teacher I thought I would be happy teaching business education courses for 30 years, so in 1981 I finished a Masters in Comprehensive Business Education at Georgia State University. Walking out the door with a freshly inked diploma clutched tightly under my arm, I swore this would be the last time I would darken the door of a college classroom.

Life changes.

After teaching business education for 11 years, I felt quite proficient as a teacher but desired fresh challenges beyond the classroom. Many of my life experiences led me to feel empathic toward personal issues entangling my high school students who acted tough as nails on the outside and resembled putty on the inside. I knew I had found another niche in education from which I could not walk away. In 1989 I finished an add-on Masters in K-12 Guidance and Counseling at the State University of West Georgia in Carrollton and accepted a job as a guidance counselor at Forest Park High School in Clayton County.

The role of a high school guidance counselor is best described as a cross between an accountant and a priest; only someone who has been a counselor to students 15-19 years old understands this analogy. I spent half the day counting credit hours towards graduation and the other half propping up confused, tearful students who assured me they were involved in a high-drama crisis that prohibited them from going back to class. At the end of the day, I was extremely successful motivating students from blue-collar families to attend college. As the senior class counselor, my seniors whom I nurtured since 10th grade received more scholarship money than any other class in the 30-year history of Forest Park High School.

My three-year tenure as a high school counselor abruptly came to an end when I accepted a counseling job at Pointe South Elementary in Riverdale. This unsolicited opportunity knocked on my door, and I was given 24 hours to make a decision. Unsure what to do, I soul searched and listened long into the still of the night for the answer: This would be the perfect opportunity to

integrate my college training in elementary education with my experience as a guidance counselor. I felt secure knowing that if I didn't like it, I could always return to the high school setting.

Much to my surprise, the transition from high school to the elementary level was an easy one. I enjoyed working with younger students. I found them to be much less jaded than high school students, and best of all, they celebrated the joys of learning. Even their temper tantrums imparted life lessons after they calmed down in my office.

After two years as a counselor at Pointe South Elementary, I accepted a job as guidance counselor at J. W. Arnold Elementary in Jonesboro. I remained there for 20 years because I couldn't find a reason to leave.

With each passing year, I prayed the good Lord would let me know when it was time to walk another path in life and turn the precious children over to a younger generation of educators. My prayers were answered. Two years ago I retired after a 36-year career as a teacher and counselor in Clayton County public schools.

Immediately after retiring, I lived "Parisian" in an apartment in downtown Paris, France, for five weeks. This was my fourth trip to Europe in ten years and probably my last for a while in light of the socio-political changes currently sweeping Europe. Nevertheless, my love for international travel is a long journey I hope never ends.

When not traveling I enjoy cooking, reading, visiting family, eating out with friends, going to the gym, shopping, sleeping late, taking care of my elderly mother, and probably some other things I've forgotten to list here.

I continue to listen long into the still of the night for my next chapter in life. Life is open book.

If you have not submitted your bio yet, we hope to see your story in our next newsletter!