

# PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER



Volume 1, Issue 2

October, 2013

FROM YOUR ALPHA IOTA DKG  
LIZ VANWESTENBURG

## From President to President

Greetings, Alpha Iota Chapter Presidents,

At the PAC (President's Advisory Council) meeting in June, I asked those present to discuss the question:

**How can we find and identify (younger or otherwise) women educators, who would be good candidates for membership?**

There was much spirited chatter, and many excellent suggestions were made. Some of those thoughts and ideas generated are summarized later in this issue.

I wanted to share with you those ideas so you might use them, in some form or another, in your membership campaign.

**Can your chapter use any of these strategies?**

My contact information is:

Liz VanWestenburg  
2692 W. Log Lake Rd. NE  
Kalkaska, MI 49646

231-258-5633

[lizvanwestdkg@yahoo.com](mailto:lizvanwestdkg@yahoo.com)



## Check Out the Alpha Iota Web Site for Current Information

The new list of contact information for the officers, the employees, and the committee chairs is available on the state's website:  
[www.deltakappagamma.org/MI](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/MI).

Look under "Rosters" in the column on the left.

I imagine you are working on planning your meetings and programs and working with your members to

put together your chapter's yearbook and newsletters. The information about the yearbook awards and the checklist will be available on the state website. Check there for information regarding newsletters as well.

## New News Inside This Issue

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## Special points of interest:

- Biennium Theme: **Education: Our Focus, Our Future**
- Alpha Iota Fall Conference, October 25-26, 2013 in Clare
- Biennium State Projects
  - Supporting Our Educators
  - Educating the Whole Child

## STATE PROJECTS



I know this is a very busy time for all of you as chapter presidents. You may be planning initiation of new members and inviting prospective members to attend interesting chapter meetings and programs. You and

your members may be busy helping teachers get ready for the school year or getting their own classroom ready.

**Please keep track of your members' volunteer hours in the schools.**

We would like to collect that data at the end of the year.

This ties in perfectly with one of our state projects.

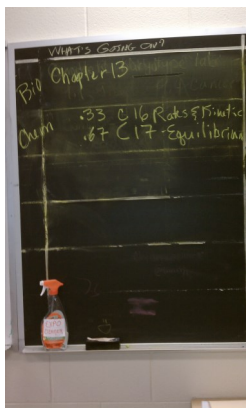
**“Education:  
Our Focus,  
Our  
Future”.**

## 2013-2015 Biennium Theme

You will hear more about this theme in future issues of the *Wolverine* and in newsletters. The state projects for the biennium are “Supporting Our Educators” and “Educating the Whole Child”.

These will be topics of newsletters, sessions at the fall conference and state convention in May, and in the state publications. You may wish to use these topics as the focus of a meeting or pro-

gram, or as the focus of a chapter project. The new logo for this biennium will be sent to you via email so you may use it if you wish.



## News From The Communications Committee

We ask that chapters are prompt at getting their newsletters submitted for evaluation by the February 1st deadline.

We are also asking that all newsletters are from July, 2013 - January, 2014.

The members of the Communications Committee include

CHAIR: Anne Wade

Members:

Sharron LaHoie

Pam Naplin

Joanne Saucier

Linda Pastucha

Joan Dillman

Maria Gonzales

Sharleen Gonzales.

## Alpha Iota Fall Workshop, October 25-26, 2013

Please plan to attend the Fall Conference in Clare at the Doherty Hotel. The tentative schedule, conference registration form and the hotel registration information were included in the recent issue of the *Wolverine*.

There is still time to register with a late fee.

There will be terrific sessions and speakers, and the opportunity to shop at the chapter sales tables and Funding Our Purposes auction.

It's both informational and fun, a great way to spend a weekend!

I would also ask that you bring with you a chapter member who has not previously at-

tended a fall conference. Let her share in the experience and see what a rewarding and interesting time it can be. Get a group together and join everyone in Clare.



DOHERTY HOTEL &  
CONVENTION CENTER

## Your Responsibilities as Chapter President

One of your responsibilities as chapter president is to attend the Executive Board meeting on Friday, October 25.

The meeting starts at 8 PM. At this meeting you will be receiving lots of information from our new state officers and committee chairs to take back to your

chapters. All members are invited to this meeting, but Chapter Presidents are required to attend. If you cannot attend, you must send the name of your representative to me by email or snail mail. Please sign in on the rosters upon entering the room. It is our official attendance record.

Your representative must sign **her name** on your line. Please tell your representative **not** to sign your name.

Put a big note on your calendar for the weekend of October 25-26, 2013. See you there!

## The Historic Doherty Hotel in Clare.



Our first Council gathering is the

Cascades Council

November 9, 2013  
9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Cascades Manor House  
1970 Kibby Rd  
Jackson, MI

Healthy Lifestyles for  
All Ages: Four Corners

Contact J-Jay Pecta for  
more information

### Coordinating Councils for 2013-14

Dr. Gedy Love is busy updating each council. Please send her an email at

[dgredy@frontier.net](mailto:dgredy@frontier.net)

Let her know the following:

- Your chapter name
- The coordinating council in which you have membership

- Your executive board and their contact information
- The leadership of your coordinating council
- The date, topic, and location of your next Coordinating Council activity.

Please respond as soon as you can.

### Leadership Development the Clare Way

Chapter presidents, please bring the other officers to the workshop presented by your State Leadership Development Committee.

All presenters have walked in your shoes. It will be a

fast paced, interactive session! Did you know that some chapters have a slate in place for 2014-2016? Wouldn't you like to count your chapter among that number? We'll see you at the session.

State Leadership Development Committee.

It would be great to have LOTS of our Delta Kappa Gamma sisters attend!

### Fall Workshop and Spring Convention

Let's each try to bring along one fall conference first-timer.

Give other chapter members a nudge and promote the event: the sessions, the speak-

ers, the auction and sales, the camaraderie and the fun!

The site is easy to find and the room rates are very reasonable. Bring a car full of people

and make it a girls' weekend out! It will be a terrific conference.

## A Reminder About Chapter Yearbooks

Please submit three (3) copies of your chapter's yearbook to the above address by the December 1<sup>st</sup> due date. Yearbooks may be on paper, CD or your chapter website. If we need a password, please volunteer it. Please also send 1 completed copy of the current evaluation form available on the state website.



The details and the checklist for evaluation are available on the state's website at "Yearbook". The committee is excited to see what you have created!

Although yearbooks will be accepted at anytime, only those received by December 1<sup>st</sup> will be considered for the 2013-2014 Yearbook Awards.

Send completed yearbooks to:

Sarah Shaw Garrison

Executive Secretary

1227 Lenox Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-2025

(248) 540-3762 / [wsarahsally@aol.com](mailto:wsarahsally@aol.com)

## More About Your Chapter Yearbooks

We know many of you are now working on the contents of your chapter yearbook!.

The information about the yearbook awards and the checklist will be available on the state website.

The new list of state officers and committee chairs and their contact information is listed under "Rosters" on the website.

The new logo will be sent to you via email so you may include it if you wish.

Information pertaining to the International officers and committee chairs, the staff at headquarters and

the international theme and projects remains the same.

The theme for the 2013-2015 biennium is

"Education: Our Focus, Our Future".

The state projects for the biennium are

"Supporting Our Educators" and "Educating the whole child".



In memory of Dr. Paula Dent.

## Greetings from the Necrology Committee

Just a few suggestions as you start the year:

1. Please have your members update their biographical sheets including contact info that is current.
2. Contact those members who can't easily get to meetings and continue to keep them involved.
3. Send or email

any Form 6's to the people listed on the form as soon as possible. Form 2's go to Necrology to report chapter deaths between January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. Send or email form or information before the February 1, 2014 if possible. **DO THIS EVEN IF THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEATHS IN YOUR CHAPTER!**  
Just a reminder to

continuing presidents and a heads-up to people just assuming the office—even though a chapter member may have already been honored in Bay City last spring, if that member died in 2013, she needs to be on your Form 2.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions! And hold Aunt Paula in your prayers. Thank you for your help.

### Necrology Chair:

Lynne Elsesser

[ELSESSL2@wowway.com](mailto:ELSESSL2@wowway.com)

H 248-348-0335

C 248-895-9598

[nancyeverettdkg@gmail.com](mailto:nancyeverettdkg@gmail.com)

**Program Ideas and Speakers NEEDED**

For the State Convention Contact Nancy Everett

The Program of Work Committee schedules events and sessions for the state convention

May 2-4, 2014 on Mackinac Island. We are on the lookout for dynamic speakers and program ideas.

Along with sessions pertaining to Society

business, we like to offer presentations of both professional and personal interest. We showcase the skills and talent of Society members.

Chapter presidents please let us know of women in your group (including yourself)

who would be willing to present a workshop session.

Additionally, please let us know of speakers in your community whose area of expertise would be of interest to our members.

## Membership Committee

**The Membership Committee is looking for volunteers to serve from each of the State Areas.**

**We need volunteers from Areas A, B and D.**

**If you are interested and willing to serve, we would**

**welcome you.**

**Good things can happen with volunteers from around the state. Please Contact:**

## Can Your Chapter Use Any of These Strategies?

### Finding Good Candidates for Membership

FROM ALPHA IOTA DKG  
LIZ VANWESTENBURG

1. Ask principals, superintendents and leaders of local educational associations for suggestions and names of women educators in the school or in the district. Tell them who we are and what we do.
2. Ask children and grandchildren the names of their favorite teachers.
3. Contact women educators at parent conferences or other school functions and invite them to dinner or for a social gathering after school
4. Give grants to early career educators and invite them a meeting to accept the grant
5. Invite grant recipients to give a program along with 2-3 colleagues talking about challenges and what help they would welcome from other educators.
6. Focus on financial aid available from state and international organizations
7. Advertise SB-CECH opportunities. SB-CECH units can be earned at fall conferences and state conventions. A number of chapters also offer qualified programs throughout the year.
8. Have a lottery. The winning teacher in the district/school would receive the help of DKG members one day after school to do bulletin boards, correct papers, etc. (whatever the teacher would like to have done)
9. Showcase the networking that results from membership in the Society.
10. Mentor teachers in schools in your district. You will have a chance to meet individuals there. Then invite them to a meeting!

Do you have other ideas and strategies that have worked for your chapter? If so, please share those with me and I can pass them along to others. With so many innovative, strong leaders in our organization, we can develop a plan to help our chapters grow and prosper!

## World Fellowship Auction Items

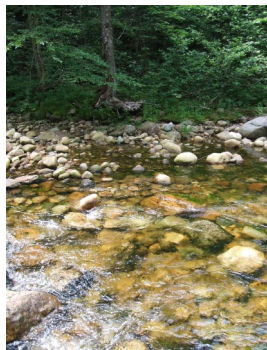
The World Fellowship auction in Clare is running between 8 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.. All items to auction off should be at the auction site by 7:00 a.m. for set up. If you come in the night before you can check them into the properties room or keep in your room until the morning. Donations for World Fellowship count toward chapter awards and recognition.

World Fellowship items for the auction in May at the Grand Hotel should be small enough (light weight enough) to carry over on the ferry

and for the winners to carry them off the island easily!

You could buy a purse or small carry on suitcase at Goodwill or consignment shop and put you items inside and then the winner can carry them back on the ferry.

- **Funds from World Fellowship provide scholarships for teachers from developing countries to receive higher education.**
- **Thanks for your generosity**



### Chapter Treasurers: Information to Share

Your chapter treasurer should have received a packet of information from International. Please check to see if your treasurer has completed the

filing of the 990n with the IRS. It is easy to do online and must be completed. Instructions were sent during the summer. Please ask that your chapter

members pay their annual dues promptly, ensuring that the dues payment is made on time to the state treasurer.

Go to "Committees," "Membership," And then "Forms" to Forms 50 and 80, the member and chapter profiles.

### Chapter Member Profiles

The International organization would like each member to complete a brief member profile (Form 50). The form is available on the Society website. See address at left box. The data from the

individual members is then compiled and recorded on the chapter profile, Form 80. The state organization will then compile that data. This will provide the international Membership committee

a picture of who we are. I would appreciate it if you could devote a few minutes at a chapter meeting in September or October to complete this task.

### Chapter Visits



As your Chapter plans for the upcoming year, please consider and schedule a visit from a State Officer. Any of the officers would be very willing to come and would like to spend time with your chapter members. Perhaps you are do-

ing something special that you would like to share. Take advantage of this opportunity! You should find the new forms for visitations on-line in August. After completing the forms, send them to:

Sandy Downs, 47755 Vistas Cr. N., Canton Mi. 48188  
734-340-4229  
sandradowns412@gmail.com  
  
I'll be waiting for your requests.



## Housekeeping Details and Reminders

1. Remind members that membership dues are to be submitted to the chapter treasurer no later than October 31.
2. Are you putting together a list of email addresses of your chapter members? Both the state and international organizations would like to use the available technology to share information and foster stronger communication among Society members. Please send those email addresses to the state treasurer when you submit membership dues.
3. Be on the lookout for potential new members! Provide prospective new members with orientation information. Use, for example, the Orientation publications available from the Membership Committee Resources on the Society's website. Initiation of new members can happen at any time of the year, and as many times as needed.
4. Are you getting all chapter members involved in the day-to-day business of the chapter? Be sure everyone has a role to play and a task to complete. We feel connected to the group when we believe we are valued and respected.
5. Have you completed the Membership and Chapter Profiles? These are forms 50 and 80, available on the resource list under the Membership Committee on the Society's website. The website is

[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org).

6. Have you signed up for the DKG social network? Details are printed on the September/October issue of the *Presidents' Page* mailed to you recently. The network offers many ways to connect with others and share ideas and information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or the other officers and state organization employees if we can be of help. I admire what you do for your chapter members, your state organization and the Society. Thank you!

I hope to see you in Clare for the fall conference, October 25-26. Chapter presidents, or their representative, are asked to attend the Executive Board meeting on Friday evening, October 25<sup>th</sup>, at 8 PM.

Sincerely,

Liz VanWestenburg

President, Alpha Iota State-Michigan

2013-2015

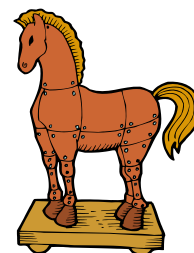
**Thanks for all  
that you do**

- **For your members**
- **For your chapter**
- **For your state**
- **For our profession**

## WOMEN IN THE ARTS

Friday, October 18 – Sunday, October 20, 2013  
Arrival 4:00 PM or later – 10:30 AM Sunday

Ralph McMullan Conference Center, Higgins Lake  
Roscommon, Michigan  
(517) 821 – 6200



## REGISTRATION FORM

**Deadline September 1, 2013**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate Preference \_\_\_\_\_



\$168.00 – Lodging and 4 meals (due to increase by the Center) at Strights  
\$16.50 - Friday Night Dinner – 5:30 PM (optional)  
(Dinner hour over at 6:15 PM)

Please mark your choice \_\_\_\_\_Chicken \_\_\_\_\_Shrimp

\$184 – Total including Friday Dinner  
Single room, add \$33

In late September you will receive a communication listing activities  
and other pertinent information about the weekend.

Make check payable to: DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Send to: Nancy Higgins

11305 Island Lake Road

Dexter, MI 48130

734 426 2914

nhigs@aol.com

Cancellation Date: October 1, 2013 to  
guarantee a full refund

Would you be willing to present an  
activity? \_\_\_\_\_

If so what one?  
\_\_\_\_\_



## DUES INFORMATION

Dear Chapter President,

2013-2014 dues are paid between July 1, 2013 and October 31, 2013.

Please help your chapter treasurer by reminding all members to pay dues as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Loretta Miles,  
State Treasurer

## ALPHA IOTA DKG LIZ VANWESTENBURG

### History Committee: Looking for You?

The Alpha Iota History Committee is looking for stories about the women of your chapter. The focus of the History Committee is to document the accomplishments of our members. (Just for clarification the Historical Document Storage is keeping printed items like Wolverine electronically.) This committee is looking for stories about individuals that reflect all that we do and our influence in our respective communities.

As women in your chapter are recognized for their hobbies, volunteering, church activities, community service, new careers, etc. Send a copy of the newspaper article, website address or copy of the proclamation to the History Committee. We also accept stories about individuals retroactively, so if a woman in your chapter has been previously recognized for an outstanding contribution let us know!

Looking forward to reading your amazing stories.

Nancy Halmhuber Navarre, PhD.

Alpha Iota History Committee, Chair

12901 Drury Lane, Plymouth, MI 48170

nancy.halmhuber@emich.edu



## U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #117, SEPTEMBER 2013

This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.



This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum

of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 90,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this

FREE newsletter should send a request to [Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com](mailto:Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com). We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/charts/public-service>

### Student Loan Forgiveness Information

It is possible to have student loans forgiven if a person is working full time in a "public service" job.

Types of jobs which qualify are public education or public library services; school library and

other school-based services; early childhood education; public service for individuals with disabilities and the elderly emergency management, military service, public safety, or law enforcement services; public health services; public interest

law services. For more information, click on the link above or copy and paste it into your browser.



## TEACHER TRAINING QUALITY

The National Council on School Quality has released an evaluation of teacher preparatory colleges. There has been some discussion of how valid this evaluation is. To find out more about the discussion go to <http://www.kshb.com/dpp/news/education/national-council-on-teacher-quality-survey-too-many-teachers-too-little-quality>

For a ranking of specific colleges go

to <http://www.usnews.com/education/nctq>

Facebook Forum Link:

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

## BULLYING

Laws which can be used to prosecute this are those on harassment and stalking.

Currently there are two sets of bills in Congress which attempt to address this issue.

The first is Safe Schools Improvement Act of 2013 (H.R. 1199, S.403) attempts to address this issue.

Note that specific actions are spelled out in the bill.

The official summary of these bills from the Congressional Record is

“Safe Schools Improvement Act of 2013 - Amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require states to direct their local educational agencies (LEAs) to establish policies that prevent and prohibit conduct, including **bullying** and harassment, that is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to: (1) limit students' ability to participate in, or benefit from school programs; or (2) create a hostile or abusive educational environment that adversely affects their education.

Requires LEAs to also provide: (1) students, parents,

and educational professionals with annual notice of the conduct prohibited in their discipline policies; (2) students and parents with grievance procedures that target such conduct; (3) the public with annual data on the incidence and frequency of that conduct at the school and LEA level; and (4) discipline policies that minimize the removal of students from instruction and prevent disproportionate punishment.

Requires: (1) the Secretary of Education to conduct, and report on, an independent biennial evaluation of programs and policies to combat **bullying** and harassment in elementary and secondary schools; and (2) the Commissioner for Education Statistics to collect state data, that are subject to independent review, to determine the incidence and frequency of the conduct prohibited by LEA discipline policies.”

The second pending bill that deals with bullying is H.R.2585 The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Reauthorization and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Act of 2013. Note that this bill ties bullying prevention to block grant funding.

With the recent suicide of a 12 year old in Florida, bullying again becomes a hot topic.

## Nominations Alert

October 15, 2013 is the deadline for International nominations! I would urge you to consider being nominated for an International office. Every member is a leader. Which new role are you ready to step into? The Nominations Committee is looking for members who

- are committed to the Society
- are effective leaders and managers
- build collaborative relationships
- are able to connect with members
- present themselves professionally

- know when to push and when to let go

Nominations are Solicited FOR:

- A. International officers for the Administrative Board:
  - President, First and Second Vice President and Regional Directors
- B. Member-at-Large
- C. Elected Positions for Committees

- International Nominations
- International-Finance

D. Two Elected Positions for the DKG Board of Trustees

For more information, please contact Kathy Taylor, Nominations Chair:

Kathy.taylor@kirtland.edu