



DELTA KAPPA GAMMA  
Alpha Iota State President's Newsletter  
March, 2013 • Vol. Two • No. 7



Dear Chapter Presidents,

I hope you have had as productive a month as I! My telephone has been ringing off the hook as I have called and responded to many of you. I have learned so much about your chapters from your annual reports! Impressive is your work and outreach in your communities. Equally impressive is the admiration that you hold for your members.

My computer has been using a lot of energy as I have written emails, created convention documents and kept up with questions. International and regional staff communicate with me regularly and I advise them about what Alpha Iota State is doing. It is amazing to think of all the paper that we save by communicating electronically.

I would encourage you to delve into Schools for Africa, an International Project. Very few chapters support it. An idea for a chapter

program might be for several members to take countries to research and report on. We all know how to research and give reports. Learn specifics about education in those countries. What are the challenges for girls and boys? What are the challenges for teachers?

Please go to the International Website and look under committees. Find EEC and scroll down to SFA. Clicking on it will give you several Powerpoint presentations that you may use for chapter programs. Try them, you may like them!

A woman's life in Ethiopia is limited without an education. One of her main functions in the family is to gather wood for the fires used for cooking the meals, heating the home, and even as a source of income for her family. Animals are reserved for fieldwork, so an Ethiopian woman uses her back to carry loads of wood to her home or the market for selling.

Another International Project that does not seem to receive much support from Michigan chapters is S.E.E. – Support for Early Career Educators. *(continued on page 2)*

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I truly do not understand why this is not a priority for our members. You do not have to have these educators in your chapters to give support. Some chapters provide scholarships, others cannot do this, but what can your chapter do?

Try our state Project, Ten Interesting Women. Yes, it takes a little effort, but anything worthwhile does. Get acquainted with the new hires or if your district does not have any, teachers who are in a field in which you have an interest. Look on the Alpha Iota State website for all the information.



*Enthusiastically  
yours,  
Olive*



### *Inventory*

*First Day of School: 30 pencils, 64 crayons, 20 pens, 12 rulers, 10 notebooks.*

*Mid-March: 1 pencil found on the ground.*



### *Cliff Notes for the State Conference*

**Q:** When I arrive at the conference, what should I do first?

**A:** You can check in at Conference Registration from 3:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Friday and from 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. in the hallway by the Ballroom. Hotel Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. daily in the main lobby.

**Q:** How will I know where everything takes place?

**A:** When you register, you will receive a Conference Program Booklet that will include all of that information. You can always check at the Registration Table if you have any questions.

**Q:** What is the first official activity of the conference?

**A:** The convention will begin Friday evening, May 3, at 7:45 p.m. with the Combined Executive Board/General Membership Meeting. *(continued on page 3)*



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*Cliff Notes for the State Conference (continued from page 2)*

Q: Will there be **food and entertainment** at the Celebrate 75! party?

A: There will be light snacks and beverages. Fellowship, the opportunity to meet our founders, reconnect with and meet new Alpha Iota State members are highlights of the celebration.

Q: Does the **Executive Board** really begin on Friday night?

A: Yes, to accommodate a busy convention, the Combined Executive Board/General Membership meeting will begin on Friday at 7:45 p.m. Members of the Executive Board comprised of elected state officers, past state presidents, and chapter presidents attend. Committee chairmen, liaisons, coordinators, and other related personnel also attend. Because it is a combined meeting, all members are expected to attend.

Q: Is **breakfast** available on Saturday?

A: The Pay-by-Item Breakfast Buffet is available from 6:30 – 8:00 a.m.

Q: Is the **Combined Executive Board/General Membership** meeting Reconvened for all members?

A: Yes, all members are encouraged to attend this session that begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. Business will be concluded and Dr. Gedy Love will be the keynoter. SB-CEU available

Q: When are the **workshops**?

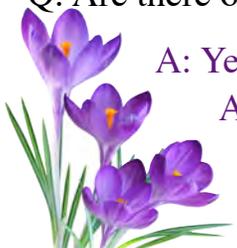
A: There are several Workshop Sessions. The Saturday morning sessions run from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., and from 11:10 – 12:10 p.m. The Saturday afternoon sessions run from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. and from 2:40 – 3:40 p.m.

Q: What is covered in the **workshops**?

A: There are workshops for everyone! There are workshops for educators that earn SB-CEU credit, there are Society workshops to assist you in your DKG work, and there are workshops for life-long learning.

Q: Are there other **activities** during the day?

A: Yes, members can also enjoy the Info Fair, Chapter Sales, and Funding Our Purposes Auction.



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### Cliff Notes for the State Conference (continued)

**Q:** What is the purpose of the **banquet** and when does it begin?

**A:** The President's Banquet honors our chapter presidents. Chapter presidents line up at 6:10 p.m. and the banquet begins at 6:30 p.m.

**Q:** When will the new **state officers** be installed?

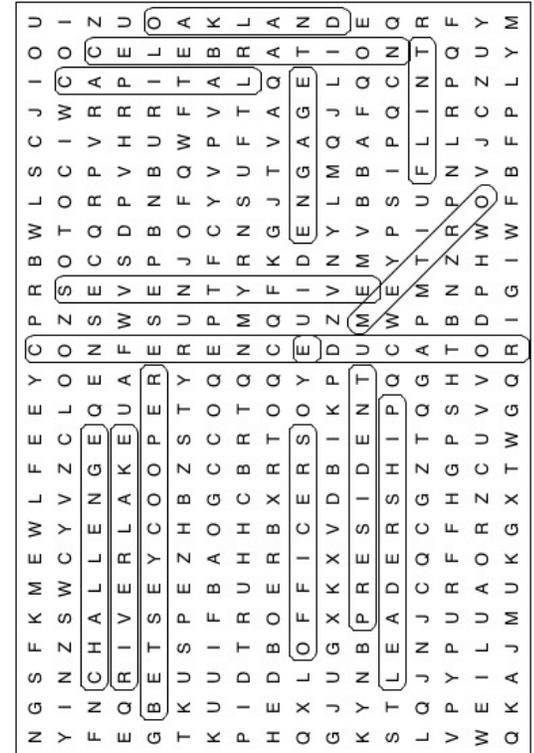
**A:** The Installation of state officers for the 2013-15 biennium will take place at the Presidents Banquet on Saturday night. You can greet them in the receiving line following the banquet.

**Q:** What occurs on **Sunday**?

**A:** The Celebration of Life and Remembrance Service will begin at 8:00 a.m. to honor members who have passed away during the past year. The Awards Brunch will follow at 9:00 a.m. to close our special weekend.

**Q:** What is the **best part** of the convention?

**A:** Please attend the convention, and let me know what you liked best!



Answers to this month's puzzle.



### Presidents' Procession

Please let Jackie Smart know that you will be marching or if not, who will march in your place. Practice will immediately follow the last workshop session. We will NOT be practicing on Friday night.

### Combined Executive Board/General Membership Meeting

Each chapter president is a member of the board and is expected to attend. If you are not attending, you must notify me in writing and tell me who from your chapter will be representing you. This is stated in our official documents.



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## REMINDERS

### Celebrate 75! - Remember to Bring Your Children's Books



As a tribute to Alpha Iota's seventy-five year history, Michigan members are reminded to bring children's books with them to the State Convention in Bay City. The goal is to collect 75 (or more) books to donate to local charities. Dr. Theresa Lorio of Zeta Chapter has designed the labels indicating that these are gifts of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

The women of Beta Pi chapter will be eagerly awaiting their opportunity to collect, label and distribute the books donated. Thelma Bailey, chapter president, has gathered together an energetic group of volunteers under the direction of Jackie Klein. These ladies include Dorothy Wiess, Barbara Bowes and Kathy Braun. They will see that the books collected are distributed to three organizations in Saginaw. These include the CAN Council (Council Against Neglect and Abuse), Underground Railroad (Home for Abused Mothers and Children), and Covenant Hospital Pediatric Unit.

We look forward to the books which you will bring with you to the convention in recognition of our seventy-fifth anniversary where we choose to remember the past, honor the present, and invest in our future. Thank you. Paula Dent, Chairman

### UPCOMING

Leadership Development Day, Grand Blanc, MI .....	March 9, 2013
PAC, Lansing, MI .....	March 23, 2013
Alpha Iota State Conference, Bay City .....	May 3-5, 2013
PAC Changeover Meeting, Lansing, MI.....	June 8, 2013
Northeast Regional Conference, Holiday Inn By the Bay, Portland ME.....	July 24-27, 2013
Women in the Arts Retreat, McMullen Center, Roscommon, MI .....	Oct. 18-20, 2013
Alpha Iota State Fall Conference, Doherty Hotel, Clare, MI .....	Oct. 25-26, 2013
International Convention, Indianapolis IN.2014.....	



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### QUICK NOTES FROM COORDINATING COUNCILS

#### **Dr. Gedy Love and Mrs. Julie Usher**

This is a reminder that there is still time to contact the Coordinating Councils for their Spring Celebrations. Gedy and Julie assure you that you will have a lot of fun with your Delta Kappa Gamma sisters. You will be welcomed with open arms and big smiles.

**The Capital Area Coordinating Council** has a luncheon with DKG 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake, and program, "Thinking Maps" presented by Connie Hamilton on Saturday, April 27, 2013, starting at 11:00 a.m. Contact June Truswell, 6166 Shoreline Ct., Saranac MI 48881 to attend and send her a check for \$20.00 by April 13, 2013.

**The Detroit Metro Council** has a celebration of Alpha Iota's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Saturday, April 20, 2013 from 10:30-1:30. They will meet at historic Greenmead in Livonia. Contact Cindy Dietz: 7329 Gilman, Westland, MI 48185, (734) 427-9399.

**The Flint Area Council** has Spring Brunch on April 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Holy Family School in Grand Blanc. Contact Laurie Bone, [lbones@sloanlongway.org](mailto:lbones@sloanlongway.org)

**The Oakland County Council** has its Birthday Celebration: April 20, 2013 at 10 AM at Forest Lake Country Club in Bloomfield Hills. Contact Sally Garrison, [wsarahsally@aol.com](mailto:wsarahsally@aol.com).

**The Riverlake Council** has its 46<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration: April 13, 2013 at the Lochmoor Club, 1018 Sunnydale, Grosse Pointe Woods from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Contact Sharon Gryzernia and Sandy Marhoff.

We will see you in May at the State Conference in Bay City. We hope you have lots of Coordinating Council news to share. Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

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### **The Betsey Cooper Leadership Development Fund**

Dr. Betty Brogan notified me that the estate of Betsey Cooper has left us \$25,000 to be used for leadership development in odd numbered years. The interest is earmarked for paying speakers and enhancing the leadership development activity. Betsey was a Past State President and was an active member of Alpha Phi until her death in 2011. She had a strong interest in developing leadership in our members.

We will be voting on this proposal at the Combined Executive Board/General Membership Meeting on Friday, May 3.



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### Legislative Update

#### **BEWARE OF HOUSE BILL 4369**

The state House Education Committee passed House Bill 4369, which would create a statewide “takeover” district called the Education Achievement Authority (EAA). The bill will next come up for a vote before the full House of Representatives, although analysts don’t yet know when.

Currently a pilot program in Detroit, the EAA would be allowed to take over up to 50 public schools across the state that are deemed by arbitrary and flawed rankings to be in the state’s bottom 5 percent. The bill would also allow the EAA to create new charter schools within two miles of a so-called “failing” school.

Contact your lawmakers and tell them:

- Rather than addressing specific problems facing local school districts, House Bill 4369 would eliminate the time-honored tradition of neighborhood schools, allowing state government bureaucrats to impose their will over local parents and communities.
- Proponents tout the Detroit EAA’s alleged effectiveness, even though it has only been in place for a few months and has already demanded a government bailout. Under this legislation, taxpayers could be forced to bail out the statewide EAA at the expense of their own local schools.
- The Legislature just took steps to stabilize the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System, but House Bill 4369 would destabilize the state’s pension plan by reducing the number of employees paying into the system.
- The bill strips away basic employment rights of school employees in buildings put under EAA control, taking away their ability to provide meaningful input on issues like curriculum, class sizes and school safety. In addition, school employees transferred to an EAA school would unfairly lose the retirement benefits they’ve already paid for.



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### **Membership Memo - Volume III, Number 2 - March/April 2013**

So now the important questions...Are we "intentional" in our efforts to build relationships within our chapters? Do we see the process as important enough to provide time and opportunity to accomplish this? Are we willing to be problem solvers as we participate in discussions on this topic with DKG members from other regions?

If your answers are "YES!" to these questions we invite you to join the Members in Action Group on the DKGNetwork. The group is open to any member of our Society so please encourage your chapter members to join. We need to hear their concerns as well as their ideas. Wouldn't it be great to see chapter relationships become international relationships? It's possible! Let's give this our best effort and celebrate our willingness to take the next step for our members.

### **We're in this Together!**

Consider for a moment the following scenario: After a recent chapter meeting a member initiated only a few months ago shared her thoughts about the meeting. She had been introduced to several other members, but she particularly enjoyed two conversations. One member had retired a number of years ago but had spent much of her career teaching in the same school as the newer member. They had a great time talking about "then and now" at the school. The other member she met had been initiated only two years ago and enthusiastically discussed her involvement in the chapter.

This kind of relationship building experience can and should be occurring throughout our organization. It didn't happen by chance! Members of this chapter had decided to spend time learning more about each other's interests and talents and then finding ways for members to use those skills in the chapter and the community. Building genuine relationships in which members feel comfortable sharing their perspectives will help us ensure that Delta Kappa Gamma continues to be relevant as years pass and times change. Hopefully, members will see more clearly the need for everyone to become involved and will decide to remain active in our organization.



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### Accepting the Challenge

In her convention acceptance speech Dr. Beverly Helms stated, "We should develop or enhance our relationship building process; one in which every member in a chapter is reached or engaged. We cannot leave it to chance." As we face declining membership numbers we must continue to emphasize the importance of strengthening chapters by identifying and initiating more key women educators. Perhaps just as critical is the next step. What kinds of engaging experiences are we providing for these members?

### Newsletter Word Search

Answers: p. 4

challenge  
seventyfive  
engage  
BetseyCooper  
educator

leadership  
Capital  
Metro  
Flint  
Oakland

Riverlake  
conference  
president  
celebration  
officers

