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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ For Key Women Educators



Liz VanWestenburg
2013-2015
State President

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Alpha Iota's State Projects for 2013-2015

For this biennium, we will be focusing on two state projects: **"Supporting Our Educators"** and **"Educating the Whole Child."** Each upholds the purposes of the Society, strengthens our educational system, offers students a chance to become successful learners and provides educators the opportunity to grow professionally. The projects will also provide chapter members the chance to meet new educators and supporters of education in their community. These individuals could be excellent candidates for new chapter members and recipients of our Friend of Education awards.

For now, let's consider the first project. There are many ways to support educators locally and statewide. If you are retired from fulltime teaching or an administrative position, volunteer in classrooms in your district. When possible and permitted, help teachers with bulletin boards and lesson plans, read to (or with) groups of students or individuals, tutor students and serve as a mentor to teachers who are new to their profession, school or grade level. You have a huge store of knowledge and experience you can share that can help others navigate open house night, parent-teacher conferences, classroom mayhem, the maze of technology, and required paperwork. You have learned ways to be more efficient and productive when tackling papers and recordkeeping. Your suggestions may work in another's classroom and may streamline their workload.



If you are currently teaching, collaborate on ideas and activities with others in your building or grade level. Share thoughts on curricular programs and classroom management techniques. Your experience is invaluable to those who are just starting! Spend lunchtime or time after school with new teachers, administrators and staff to get to know them. If they are new to the area, give them information on community events, shopping locations and local opportunities. Make plans to attend school events and functions with them: football games, school concerts, plays. Introduce them to others in the school. Help them feel comfortable in their new school, classroom or office.

Alpha Iota State Projects 2013 - 2015 Continued on page 3

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2013 - 2015

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President's Message



Alpha Iota State 2013-2015 Biennium Theme Education: Our Focus, Our Future

Dear Alpha Iota Sisters,

The theme, "Education: Our Focus, Our Future", for this biennium brings to mind a number of thoughts, ideas, interpretations and visual images. According to Wikipedia, the word "education" is "a form of learning in which the knowledge, skills, and habits of a group of people are transferred from one generation to the next through teaching, training, or research. Any experience that has a formative effect on the way one thinks, feels, or acts may be considered educational." And, as you recall, the purposes of DKG focus on many aspects of education. The sixth purpose is: "To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action." That encompasses both learning and teaching. When we think of education, we may picture schools, teachers and administrators, classrooms, students and materials. That picture has changed over time, as there is more use of technology and the "traditional" classroom or school may look different that it did even ten years ago. This formal form of education is based on an established structure and curriculum, courses and specific content. There are public and private schools, schools of differing grade levels, and many different schools of higher education. Brick and mortar buildings, and even online and virtual schools offer people options for formal learning. There are alternative schools for specific audiences and participants, vocational programs for learning and practicing a trade or craft, and pre-schools for the very young. Those may not have a formal curriculum, but there is often a prescribed program of learning and social interaction.

There is also a great deal of informal education taking place every day. Some is self-directed, other learning occurs under the guidance and direction of others. We learn through reading, surfing the web, interacting with others, attending seminars, engaging in recreational activities, and observing. We learn by living! Educationalist Lawrence L.P. Jacks, who was also an early proponent of lifelong learning, best described the modern concept of education through recreation in the following quotation "A master in the art of living draws no sharp distinction between his work and his play, his labour and his leisure, his mind and his body, his education and his recreation. He hardly knows which is which. He simply pursues his vision of excellence through whatever he is doing and leaves others to determine whether he is working or playing. To himself he always seems to be doing both. Enough for him that he does it well."

As you go about your daily routine, wherever you are, whatever you are doing, you are learning. As you teach a classroom of children or adults, learn the nuances of your phone or computer, as you read the labels on items in the grocery store, attend a Zumba class, think about the beautiful fall colors on the leaves on the trees, you are gathering information about something new and interesting. You are learning new skills, meeting new people, and creating new areas of interest. I have learned what it means to "de-tassel" corn, about the nesting habits of the piping plover, how to use the re-touch pen in iPhoto, and how to determine the best length of a kayak paddle. That is education!

I leave you for now with a challenge. Make note of at least one thing you learn each day. You will be amazed at the list that you compile in just a short time!

With warm regards,

Liz VanWestenburg, Alpha Iota State President

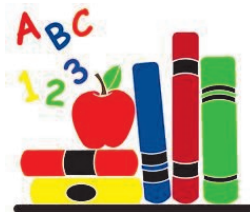
State Projects 2013-2015 Continued

Alpha Iota State Projects 2013 - 2015 Continued from page 1



You can also help educators by donating school supplies for their classrooms. Don't forget that as the year progresses, those pencils and glue sticks from September will run out. Consider donating a basket of supplies in **January**. Chapter members may wish to donate items and, in some communities, stores may donate supplies. It can't hurt to ask! Monetary grants from chapters can help with the expenses of professional development conferences and classroom projects. Both ultimately benefit students and teachers.

Bring in treats and small tokens of appreciation. Cookies or fresh fruit, a big pot of soup or chili, a salad luncheon or breakfast can brighten anyone's day. A candy bar with the message "We're sweet on educators" or a packet of hot chocolate or tea to give them a warm hug. A note of thanks for all they do for the students in your community. When spring arrives, how about a car wash just for the educators in your area? You could put all the names of the teachers and staff in a hat and draw names to determine the winners of a "DKG Help Squad." You could offer your time and energy to rake leaves, address their holiday greeting cards, wrap gifts or help with other tasks. And each time, be sure to include the name of the Society and your chapter. Include contact information, too.



Offer childcare during a chapter meeting. This could encourage potential new members to attend a meeting and discover who we are and what we do. Have a chapter program that involves their children. You could have a reading circle or game night for children. I can just picture a roomful of DKG sisters and children playing "Twister" or a board game! If you have crafters in your group, plan a make and take for children. Teach them to knit or crochet, pot and tend a plant, create a card for someone special, make a piece of jewelry, build a birdhouse, paint a shirt. (Of course, always keep safety in mind.) In the process, you are educating the whole child, broadening their horizons and interests.

You can also support educators by staying abreast of new legislation and changes in educational expectations. Whatever your political views may be, follow legislative issues and candidates. Make your voice heard! Don't neglect to vote in state and local elections.



Support your local educators by attending school events. The advisors, coaches, theater, choir and band directors need and appreciate your presence at games, competitions, concerts and plays. Let them know that their efforts are recognized. If your teachers are involved in a school fundraiser, support them. If a teacher or staff member is receiving an award at a school board meeting, be there to say "Well done! You deserve it!" Offer awards to local educators and acknowledge their accomplishments.

There are so many more ways to support our educators with our time, presence, money and appreciation, simple ways to show that we care about them. Offer to help when and where you can! If we can brighten their day and lighten their load, we have accomplished a great deal. Be creative. Think about what would help you in their situation. Be direct. Ask your educators what they need and how you can help. Get chapter members involved and spread the news about DKG and your local chapter. Please **keep a log** of your efforts, and **report the volunteer time and monetary donations** on the forms provided to chapter presidents. Share your ideas with me and with other chapters. This project will help educators and students, increase chapter growth and community awareness, and give us all the chance to feel really good about helping others. Thank you for your support of this state project.



Submitted by Liz VanWestenburg, Alpha Iota State President

Membership

WAYS OF HONORING MEMBERS



Some chapters have yet to experience the death of a member, but many others have had the experience all too often. We all know about the Ceremony of Life and Remembrance during the Spring Convention, but often a ceremony within the chapter is called for since not all members can attend the convention.

Many chapters hold their own ceremony at a meeting where they will place a white rose for the member just as is done at the convention. Some use a poem or reading of their choice and most include a write-up in their chapter newsletter. Necrology also has obituaries published in each "Wolverine." Copies are now being forwarded to the family or friend contact when the Commemorative Booklets are sent out to them in the spring. The chapter may also want to send theirs if they don't already.

Many Chapters will ask the family if they would like to have an abbreviated White Rose Ceremony at the funeral services. Many members often attend the services and bring others who may have difficulties getting there. Members also often get up to talk or share something about their sister if that is an appropriate part of the services. As long as you check with the family and the funeral home, you will probably be able to do something.

However, depending on distance or weather, sometimes having a dinner to honor your sister or just reminiscing at a chapter function is a possibility. Unfortunately, some of our White Roses were quite elderly and though they've maintained membership and contact whenever they could, the news of their passing may come quite late. We do what we can.

Some chapters, who know how much these women cared about our organization and what it stands for, have even held a chapter meeting at nursing homes or assisted living facilities to keep the members involved. Birthday parties for those who can't get out much are always welcomed - small or large-scale! Distance again may be an issue.

Please share with us your ideas and Necrology will put them in *The Wolverine*. Most of the suggestions just mentioned came from discussions with chapter members at various DKG functions. Please add yours!

Submitted by Lynne Elssesser, Gamma Alpha, Necrology Chair

A Special Welcome to Alpha Iota State Initiates



Epsilon

Kelly Alvarez
Kimberly Parker-DeVauld
Kathleen McIntyre

Phi

Lavonia "Vonnice" L. Seidel
Ann M. Rogers

Alpha Kappa

Beth P. Spencer
Megan M. Carlston

Alpha Xi

Colleen M. Whitsitt*

Alpha Rho

Jeanine DeLay
Kay L. Moler
Amy C. Rolfes

Beta Epsilon

Mary Ann Callens*

Beta Omicron

Debra K. Herrick
Diana K. Michael*

Gamma Eta

Patricia A. Brown*

Gamma Zeta

Margaret A. Foreman T



* Reinstated T Transfer H Honorary

Eight First Timers Attend Fall Conference

The membership committee prepares small gift bags for members who are attending a State Fall Conference for the first time. The eight members who were first timers honorees in Clare, MI. were: Elizabeth Lipto, Beta Chapter; Susan Grosenbach, Lambda; Alicia Sanford, and Carol Dean,, Phi Chapter; Nancy Evans, Alpha Gamma Chapter; Joni James, Alpha Phi Chapter, Pam Morgan, Gamma Gamma Chapter, and Suellen Gifford, Beta Kappa Chapter.

Submitted by Kathy Muench, Alpha Omega, State Membership Chair

Membership

White Roses in Memoriam

Dr. Paula Ann Dent, Zeta Chapter
Alpha Iota State President (1983 - 1985)
International President (1996 - 1998)



We, as a Society (capital and lower case), have been diminished. Our fun-loving, honest, caring leader has gone on to her celestial home. Aunt Paula exemplified what The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International meant by the phrase “key women educator”; she was a champion of women in education at every level. Her Uncle Paul, a Roman Catholic Monk, often reminded her that she was a member of the lay apostolate

and a missionary to the community and to the people she served. She took this seriously, knowing that her role in life, her passion, was to serve those around her and to help bring them closer to their full potential.

Her service to Delta Kappa Gamma cannot be measured. In Zeta Chapter, she either held every office or helped the office holder to understand what her position required. Aunt Paula helped each of us to be successful in fulfilling our perspective roles at the chapter level.

At the state level, Paula served as the 1983-85 Alpha Iota State President. During her biennium she emphasized the need to reclaim members who had dropped out, to retain the members we have and to recruit new members. She saw that The Society was a valuable asset, one worth working diligently to preserve. In that vein she worked with state past presidents Dr. Betty Brogan and Betsy Cooper to present early training workshops for leaders in Michigan. During her tenure, the President’s Advisory Council was formed. This entity, PAC, is still in existence today, helping state officers and committee chairmen come together to build a strong bond and an even stronger state society.

Throughout her tenure in our Society, Aunt Paula presented numerous workshops in a variety of fields and levels, enhancing our membership through her knowledge of and love for all things Delta Kappa Gamma. She was a charter member of the Strategic Planning Committee, and she later continued in that role as chair. She was co-chair of the Alpha Iota’s “Celebrate 75! Committee”, commemorating the state organization’s 75th anniversary. She took this responsibility very seriously, not letting her illness enter into the equation. She had a job to do, and she did it with gusto!

Additionally, our NERD (Northeast Regional Director) was responsible for a most informative and thrilling Seminar in Purposeful Living prior to the Northeast Regional Conference at the Greenbrier. Her service on the Educational Foundation marked some of her most productive years. She certainly put to use all of the skills learned when she took part in the

second Golden Gift Fund Seminar in Waco, Texas.

She went on to amaze us all with her ability to organize and team-build as evidenced during the 1996-98 biennium when she served as International President. The International Convention in Dallas took our breath away--there she was, all decked out in her cowgirl boots and Stetson leading us in the two-step! Paula certainly loved a party, as evidenced by her email address: apppl@aol.com. Translation: Aunt Paula Party Person #1! Her hard work did not go unrecognized for in 1999, the year following her presidency, she was honored with the International Achievement Award. She wore that beautiful medallion with great pride.

On a more personal note, one of my fondest memories is the time we went off to Ohio to do a workshop for a small school district. We were given directions to the hotel at which we were to stay. We flew in, then rented a car, (with a broken driver’s seat – Paula had to use her briefcase as a seatback). We started out and were driving along while talking up a storm. Somehow, we finally realized that we were lost. We saw a state trooper giving a sobriety test to a pulled over driver. We stopped and waited till the officer was free and asked him how to get to the hotel. He scratched his head, went over to his cruiser, pulled out a map and said, “I don’t work that part of the state.” We had driven clear across Ohio and hadn’t even noticed.

We finally arrived at the hotel much later than the 4 p.m. expected arrival. Not only was it too late for our hosts to greet us, but also the hotel did not even have a reservation in our name. Thankfully, they did have an available room for us. After quickly unpacking and getting ready for bed. I called the desk and asked for a wakeup call, and we went to sleep. When the phone rang, I picked it up and said, “thank you.” We hurriedly got dressed, ready for a full day of presenting. We went down to the reception desk. It was very quiet. Looking up at the clock above the desk, we saw that it was 4:30 a.m. Clearly, someone had called our room by mistake! Since we were already up and dressed for the day, we stayed up, enjoying the moment, and waited for the real day to begin. Every adventure was an excuse for a party!

Now, as Paula continues on to the next adventure on her journey, she leaves behind a world greatly enhanced by her presence: her family whom she loved unreservedly; her friends who could count on her love and loyalty; the children of Detroit who benefited from her leadership and insight into their needs and the personnel of the Detroit Public Schools who could count on her to get to the bottom of any problem she could help to solve. Each of us knows that we will miss and mourn her passing, but she would not want us to wear ashes or long faces. She would want us to lift a glass and say, “Party Time!” And we will add, “Cheers and thank you, Aunt Paula!”

August 2, 1931 - August 12, 2013

Submitted by her dear friend, Theresa Lorio, Zeta

Membership

White Roses in Memoriam

M. Sue Henriksen, Lambda Chapter



A vital, involved member, Sue attended all chapter meetings and state conventions since her initiation in 1986. Women in the Arts Retreats fed her creative spirit, as well as, handcrafted baby outfits and hats for local hospitals and churches. Sue's favorite pastimes included sewing, paper toil, crafts, puzzles, gardening and reading. A master, she designed and packaged counted cross stitch kits for our DKG pin and crest. A framed pair was sent to International which, in turn, gave it to our Society's newly installed Japan state organization. What a compliment to Sue's talent and dedication; she was delighted!

Sue graduated from Wayne State, taught in Royal Oak before transferring to Kenwood in Clawson to teach grades 1-4, plus, a year of gym and art. She received the 1988 Professional Excellence Award from her district. Following her retirement after 26 years, she continued to volunteer at her school library. Sue was a Girl Scout leader, vice-president of her PTA, and Torch Drive volunteer.

Sue married the love of her life, Tom, and lived in their "starter home" in Clawson throughout their 59 years together. They have two daughters, Laurie and Lynn, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Sue and Tom cruised the Caribbean, Baltic Sea and East Coast, traveled to Alaska and Hawaii. Her family made many road trips all over our country.

Lambda members remember Sue for her contributions as Corresponding Secretary and 2nd Vice-president, her wholehearted support of chapter business, events and members, her warm laugh and tremendous sense of humor, her "zany, marvelous stories." Sue loved to laugh and people who knew her considered her their "best friend." She earned this title by carefully listening while drawing out the interests and thoughts of those around her. Sue was a Special Lady, deeply loved and respected by all who knew her.

September 19, 1932-July 5, 2013

Sadie Garner, Beta Chapter

Teaching involves so much than mere dissemination of subject material; and Sadie Garner epitomized the art and the heart of her calling, her passion. Testimonials abound from her students at the Council Training School in Huntsville, Alabama where she began her career after graduating from Spelman College and, from 1963 on, from those at Ypsilanti High where she continued teaching, nurturing and mentoring for 43 more years. Young men from Council still remember her after over 50 years - Lawrence from California credited his teacher/mentor with building his confidence in himself, his oratory and literary interpretation skills, his appreciation of Shakespeare. He said she saw in him--a poor, skinny, nerdy kid with a need--what he didn't even know existed and took action. He credits her for the

man he is today. Ron from Georgia said this magnificent human being saw him--a smart arrogant, little boy, headed for trouble--and was instrumental in changing his direction, guiding him to Morehouse and transforming him into an intelligent man. He knows Ms. Garner will live on through him and through his daughter upon whom she also had a wonderful impact. Ypsilanti student, Geraldine from Michigan said Sadie B. Garner taught her there is a top, there is a bottom, and somewhere in between. You choose just where you want to be. This sentiment is echoed by another Michigan woman who said Sadie told her that she was unique and special and to not be afraid to be who she was - "Never give in to being common; there are too many common folk in this world. Choose...make an effort to be uncommon!" Linda from Georgia credited Sadie for bringing literature to life and for inspiring her own teaching career. Another Michigan woman remembers Sadie for pushing her College Prep English students to be their best and to strive for nothing less. Stacy, from Maryland, said Sadie challenged her students to be Grade-A thinkers and remembers Sadie inviting them to her home and having them sign her guestbook as if they were important dignitaries -which, to this amazing woman, they were. This is merely a sampling of the tributes from students, parents, staff, friends, family and her Beta sisters for this soft-spoken, genteel woman with the no-nonsense attitude.

Besides being the consummate English teacher, outside of school, Sadie mentored at many community organizations including the Boys and Girls Club, counseling those in need, taking students to other countries and assisting hundreds of students in gaining acceptance into colleges and universities across the country. Sadie belonged and actively participated in eight Educational Associations varying from her subject matter area and curriculum to EA's, in AAUW, DKG, NAACP, AKA Sorority and in five local and national Genealogical Societies (she became a certified Genealogist after retiring). She was a driving force behind the establishment of the Ypsilanti Chapter of Zonta International whose goals mirrored her own, as well as, serving on the Board of Directors for the Ann Arbor Summer Festival. She still had time for her friends, family, church, and to read and be a world-class Scrabble player. A 46-year member of Beta Chapter, she actively participated in meetings as long as her health permitted up to 2012-13, was honored as Chapter Woman of Distinction in 2002, and led the scholarship fundraiser/fashion show for five years. Her sisters felt that Sadie was uplifted by those who gave meaning to her life when they stopped by to see her and to show her the difference she had made in their lives. Quite a legacy!

April 5, 1931 - May 2, 2013

*No one truly dies;
they live on in the hearts
of those who knew them.*

Membership

White Roses in Memoriam

Julia Acker, Beta Iota Chapter Charter Member

Our Beta Iota sister, born in Sister Lakes, MI, spent her formative years on a farm between Decatur and Dowigiac during the Great Depression. She and her two siblings attended a one-room school where her mom taught all grades. Because of her oratory abilities and lack of fear of speaking in front of groups, Julia frequently accompanied her father, who was the head of the Republican Party in Van Buren County, to political rallies where she served as part of the entertainment—"an elocutionist who recited poetry." She was also quite a student because after an early graduation, she attended MSU, earning her degree in Home Economics by the age of 17. Her career began in Chelsea teaching Home Economics, sometimes to students older than she. She returned to Lansing to take a new job as an Extension Agent, and there she met Keith and became engaged. Plans were made, the dress was bought, but WWII called her fiancé away. They corresponded during the war and married upon his return, starting their family soon after. Julia then returned to teaching Home Economics in Ionia, Fairplain and finally in Benton Harbor where she was initiated into Rho Chapter in 1954, serving as president from 1958-1960. They had built a home in St. Joseph and besides teaching, Julia was a Brownie leader, Cub Scout Den mother, Bible School teacher, Church Camp Counselor and vacation planner as the family began their visits to all the lower 48 states.

In 1964, after moving to West Branch for Keith's work, she was hired first to teach Michigan History and English until a vacancy opened up in her field three years later. West Branch did not have a DKG branch, and after her great experiences with Rho Chapter and to honor the teachers where she now lived, Julia founded a new chapter in 1967, Beta Iota, serving as its first president from 1967 - 1970. Her daughter said her mom had always had a great appreciation for what it took to be a good teacher and that she was the 3rd of the current five generations of teachers in her family.

After retiring in the early 70's, Julia and her husband traveled even more--to Europe to visit countries where Keith had served and to visit their foreign exchange student. They also bought an Airstream and traveled from Alaska throughout Canada and the US and even down into Mexico. They spent many winters near Homestead, Florida where Julia volunteered for Family Services on the Air Force Base. Also during this time, unbeknownst to their family, they both volunteered and were accepted into the Peace Corps and were planning to go to South America when they got the news they were about to become grandparents. That changed everything. Julia became the ultimate grandma and bonded with each of her five grandchildren as they arrived and later with her seven great-grandchildren. Finally she and her husband moved to Independence Village in Frankenmuth where she was a hospice volunteer and then served as the president of the Residents' Association. They both volunteered at many local festivals until Keith's health deteriorated and she became his caregiver and then continued helping others after his death. Throughout her life Julia remained true to her beliefs in family, education, and stressed the importance of giving back to one's community, not just taking from it.

February 3, 1920 - August 9, 2013



Shirley L. Wyrembelski, Beta Epsilon Chapter

The first day of kindergarten - pictures, sometimes tears, sometimes laughter, the bittersweet feelings of knowing your child is growing up, seemingly too fast beginning a journey where you have to trust his or her well-being to others. Having Shirley Wyrembelski greet your child at the door with smiles and hugs, while drying the tears of those who were sad and knowing that as a mother of six, she loved and held children at the forefront of her life would certainly allay your fears. Shirley "knew how to bring out the best in everyone, students, as well as, co-workers"; "she touched the heart of every student she taught and every child became part of Shirley's heart."

When she was 13, her family moved from Detroit to the Warren neighborhood where she would spend the rest of her life until her health caused her to move in with her daughter Cindy in Port Huron. After graduating from Warren's Lincoln HS as the Salutatorian, she married the man from down the street with whom she would spend 62 years in a strong, loving, inspirational relationship. At age 32, she started night-school at Wayne State University (eventually finishing her degree at U of M), allowing her to be with her growing family and train for a career she would love. She subbed in various schools and then in 1967, at age 39, pregnant with her 6th child, she began teaching at the Kennedy Elementary in the Van Dyke Public School District where she remained for 27 years teaching kindergarten and 1st grade.

Shirley treated her students as she did her own children and every other child she met - whether it was at the library, splash pads at the ice rink, playgrounds, school activities or any activities where children were - with love, respect and compassion. She made everyone feel they were Number One! This community-oriented woman received the PTA Service Award and the Angel award from the Macomb County Child Guidance Center. Also, she was nominated as Van Dyke's Elementary Teacher of the Year, and had a scholarship set up in her honor by the Kennedy PTA for 6th graders upon their graduation. After retiring, Shirley was elected to the Van Dyke District School Board in 2000 and served until 2006.

During that time she maintained her focus on student welfare and even if the Board had to deal with expelling a student, she never said a harsh word but, instead, offered constructive criticism and encouragement. The School Board also gave her the honor of personally presenting H.S. diplomas to those graduating Seniors who had had her as a teacher. When her children planted a tree at Kennedy Elementary to honor their mom while she was still alive and able to watch it grow, the word spread and people flocked to an impromptu tribute to a wonderful teacher.

Shirley was invited to join Beta Epsilon in 1980, an organization that her daughter said she absolutely loved and that was so important to her. She served her sisters as President from 1988-1990, was Chapter Historian, and the Editor of the Chapter Newsletter, "Beta Epsilon Expressions". Her family and the families of so many feel fortunate to have known her.

November 23, 1928 - September 21, 2013

Membership

State Committees

It's Time to Grow Roses



"We think we have thought of everyone, extended many invitations, spoken with countless women and still our membership lags. We have nothing left to try." "Our Chapter is happy as it is. We are a small, but social group and everyone gets along. Why should we care?" We need those red roses, otherwise known as new members. NOW is the time to do some "planting" for the coming year.

- ♦ Watch your local newspaper. If you see an article that includes recognition or publicity for a woman teacher in your area, send her a letter of congratulations for her efforts and include DKG information. Invite her to a meeting. Reach out.
- ♦ Call the principals of your local schools, public and private, or the provost of community or state colleges. Ask them to recommend the "key" educators in his or her building or school. Send these women letters of introduction and maybe an invitation to a weekend tea. Cultivate.
- ♦ Go online to school websites. Read the site, looking for women educators leading school activities, being praised by students, or being involved in special projects. Send each of them a congratulatory letter. Fertilize.
- ♦ Call the president of the local PTO. Ask that individual to recommend teacher-leaders within their group. Have your chapter provide these valuable teachers recognition far beyond the day involvement in education. A certificate and a red rose presented at a PTO meeting could go a long way. Bring sunshine.
- ♦ Do not forget to personally ask a member to rejoin, she may have more time to tend to the garden now.

There are many ways to grow your Chapter garden of members. It takes many hands and lots of tending to cultivate our chapter garden and make it grow. Please take the initiative. It's time to grow red roses!

Submitted by Kathy Muench, Alpha Omega, State Membership Chair

"In the Mood," The Grand Hotel

During the first weekend of May, Michigan Society members and their guests will have the opportunity to "Live Large," to truly Experience the GRAND Lifestyle !!!

In preparation for your weekend, before packing overnight bags, there are a couple of films that might qualify as Anticipatory Sets for your visit.

The first, **This Time for Keeps** (1947) with Esther Williams and Jimmy Durante emphasizes the Historic Cottages, bicycles of the era, horse drawn carriages, and the Grand Hotel with its Esther Williams Pool constructed for Esther and this production which still provides swimming for guests on the grounds.

The second, **Somewhere in Time** (1980) with Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour, leads us through the gardens and grounds while touring public and private rooms in the hotel.

As you view these films, remember the site's history of growth, both horizontally and vertically, and frequent off-season renovations, the current designed by Carlton Varney.

Although there may have been cosmetic changes since becoming Michigan's Summer Place in 1887, perhaps new wall coverings and paint colors or furniture, bedding, and carpets, the elegance, ambiance, and service for which the Grand Hotel is known continue to improve with age. Are you getting "In the Mood" yet? Come find out. Experience the GRAND Lifestyle !!! See you on The Island May 2-4, 2014.

*Submitted by Sally Garrison, Lambda Chapter,
State Executive Secretary*

State and Chapter

Woman of Distinction Reminder



Chapter Presidents and Personal Growth and Service Chairs, please begin the process of naming your ***Chapter Woman of Distinction***. The forms for nomination for both ***Chapter Woman of Distinction*** and ***The Alpha Iota***

State Woman of Distinction are on the state web site:

www.deltakappagamma.org/MI

Jackie Smart, Gamma Alpha, State Personal Growth and Services Chair

Anniversary Pins available for sale. Contact J-Jay Pechta, Information on page 2.



State Committees

Visit to Upper Peninsula Chapters Chi and Delta

President Liz, on her recent visit to the Upper Peninsula in early October to see her in-laws, had the opportunity to meet with two Delta Kappa Gamma chapters. On Thursday she met with 6 members of the Delta Chapter at the Applebee's in Marquette. They had a lovely chat finding out about who was still teaching, who was retired and what and where and how long they taught. They talked about the upcoming conference in Clare and the convention in Mackinaw next May. Then on Friday she lunched with 7 members of the Chi chapter at the Iron Horse Restaurant in Chassell. Their visiting time was spent chatting about educational backgrounds and ways to find potential new members. All enjoyed there time together.



**Travels
With
President
Liz**



Invite Any State Officer for a Chapter Visit

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 your way to share news or just be a visitor. Perhaps you are doing something special that you would like to share. Perhaps you have a new member initiation planned. A birthday celebration. A speaker or program. Your president, and other officers, would like to spend time with your chapter members. Take advantage of this opportunity!

You should find the new forms for visitations on-line. After completing the forms, send them to:

**Sandy Downs
47755 Vistas Cr. N.
Canton Mi. 48188**

If you have problems or need me to send you a request form, contact me at 734-340-4229 or

sandradowns412@gmail.com

I'll be waiting for your requests.

Submitted by Sandy Downs, Gamma Gamma Chapter, State Visitation Chair



Chi Chapter pictured with President Liz-- Back row (left to right): President Liz VanWestenburg, June Schaefer, Sharon Torgeson, Karen Brooks, Judy Pleshe, Front row: Lois Jambeker, Ruth Groth, and Mary Kay Kaukola-Olkkonen



Delta Chapter pictured- Back row (left to right): Pat Willers, Chapter President, Mary Bengary, Mary Butorac, Front row: Darley Kemppainen, Nancy Anderson, and Nancy Decaire

State Committees



Travels With President Liz



Late September, the Sisters of Alpha Epsilon Chapter had a luncheon/tea homecoming reunion to celebrate Delta Kappa Gamma's 75th birthday. The luncheon was held at the Carnegie Center for the Arts in Three Rivers. Piano music was provided by member, Beverly Smith. Liz VanWestenburg and Nancy Navarre (Alpha Iota History Chair) joined the group. Sheree Sorenson came the farthest from Menominee, MI.



In mid October Liz VanWestenburg (Alpha Iota President) and Sandy Downs (Visitation Chairperson) went to Mu Chapter's October meeting at Kitchen School in Davison. Kitchen School is a refurbished one room school that Davison uses to educate their community about the history of the community and it's education. The meeting was about Delta Kappa Gamma's project of Schools for Africa. Mu Chapter has made dresses (that are hanging in the background) for the girls in Africa so that they could go to school. They will be sending them over soon. A lovely dinner, lots of visiting and a chapter meeting also took place. Liz told the group what has been happening at the state level and that she hoped to see them at the conference in Clare and/or convention on Mackinac Island

Pictured from L to R: Barb Reehl, Pat Hatch, Leslie Acevedo, Kim Confer, Alta Parsons, Cheryl Cyran, Delores DiGiacomo, Alice Bristle, Eileen Scott, Liz VanWestenburg, Pat Emenyonu, Becky Putnam, Chloe Depew, Susie Carter, Lee Anne Stringer, and Barbara Young

Submitted by Sandy Downs, Gamma Gamma, State Visitations Chair

State Committees

Coordinating Council Activities



The 2013-2015 Biennium has begun! Coordinating Councils are up and running and planning their 2013-2014 activities.

The **Great Southwest Council** celebrated with a gathering at Silver Beach in St. Joseph on **August 7, 2013**. They enjoyed a program by Pat Nordberg about the History of Silver Beach Amusement Park. The Bistro provided the box lunches and the Blue Water Ramblers serenaded the attendees. Another highlight of the afternoon was the Carousel, which was enjoyed by many. Other places to visit in St. Joseph included Krast Art Center, the Box Factory, Heritage Museum and Cultural Center, Curious Kids/Discovery Zone, and many additional venues. The Great Southwest Council members enjoyed a lovely afternoon of learning and fun at Silver Beach.

As of the writing of this article **Coordinating Council Celebrations** are planned for:

November 9, 2013, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Cascades Manor House, 1970 Kibby Road, Jackson MI, with the **Cascades Council** as hostesses: Bernice Haglund is the Chairwoman/President. There will be a Four-Corners for healthy-living program to include: Cooking tips, Calming stress, Chair exercises and Card Craft.. Luncheon will be a sandwich and soup buffet with lots of goodies. You are encouraged to join the Cascades Council for a healthy Saturday. Contact Bernice Haglund or J-Jay Pechta for registration and information.

March 22, 2014, the **Capital Area Council** will have a luncheon at Christy's Lounge in the remodeled Lansing Lexington Hotel (soon to be renamed) off I-496 and Cryets Road in Lansing. The coordinators are: Alpha Upsilon Chapter from Ionia. Further details will be provided in the next **Wolverine**.

April 12, 2014 at 10:00 AM at Forest Lake Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, the **Oakland Coordinating Council**, will have its Birthday Celebration. Contact Sally Garrison for information at wsarahsally@aol.com.

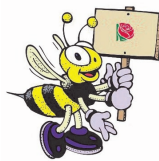
If your Coordinating Council has additional activities, please contact Dr. Gedy Love at drgedy@frontiernet.net-- Gedy likes to share the news!

The **Sub-committee** for our Alpha Iota State Coordinating Councils welcomes YOU. The role of our Sub-committee members is to attend local Coordinating Councils and share the fun with Gedy. Sub-committee members may act as Gedy's representative some times. If you are interested in becoming part of the Coordinating Councils Sub-committee, please contact Gedy, she can use your help.

Coordinating Council members, please remember to update Gedy on your next event and your contact information. She is busy updating records. We are looking forward to an exciting season of "Education, Our Focus, Our Future!"

*Submitted by Dr. Gedy Love, Omicron Chapter,
State Coordinating Council Chair*

Communications with Chapter Members



Do you sometimes feel overwhelmed with the responsibilities of the presidency of your chapter? Involve others in communicating with your chapter members. Try some of these ideas:

Have a **newsletter editor** who will take in information from all your members and committees and type up a newsletter. It may be a quarterly, monthly or whatever length of time works best for your chapter. (If you need help in starting a newsletter, please contact Anne Wade, Communications Chair. I'd love to ensure that all chapters have a newsletter.)

Have a **phone tree** established for quickly communicating important news to all your members.

To quickly communicate **via e-mail**, when adding contacts to your e-mail account, set up a separate contact list for your chapter. All you need to do is click on that contact list, click on check all, and you're ready to type a quick message to all your chapter members at once. I use this for communicating important news between newsletters.

If you have a facebook page, create a separate one just for the chapter – so you can quickly post announcements in the subject and it will go out to all those you let into the facebook group.

Have a committee (or someone) who is willing to send cards to members on birthdays and anniversaries, and flowers or cards to those in your chapter experiencing illness or surgery.

Remember as president, you don't need to do everything yourself. Delegate!

Submitted by Anne Wade, Alpha Lambda, State Communications Chair

Geocaching: It's Fun-cational!

If you walked into Bette Bridges' workshop about Geocaching and knew nothing about it, you would be all set to join in the fun after attending this session. Geocaching is an outdoor adventure game that uses a GPS and multi-billion dollar satellites to find trinkets almost anywhere in the world. Someone hides a water-proof container in an outdoor location. They publish the longitude and latitude on the internet. Then, interested people go find it using their own GPS.

Bette has gone all over the world trying to find geocaches. Once found, the seeker signs the log book and has the option of taking a trinket from the container and leaving something of equal or greater value. That person may also decline to do so. Then, the find should be logged in. Bette has located over 800 geocaches from easily found to a greater degree of difficulty. Check this out, it might be just the thing you have been seeking to get you or your progeny off the couch and into the outdoors.

Submitted by Eileen Rodak, Zeta Chapter

State Committees



Parliamentary Moment

What's Happening with our DKG Governing Documents?

Alpha Iota State

Alpha Iota State adopted several amendments to its bylaws and standing rules in May 2013. Some of these amendments brought our state organization documents into compliance with the latest DKG *Constitution* and *International Standing Rules*; others responded to particular needs and wishes of Michigan members.

The revised bylaws and standing rules are posted on our state organization website dkg.org/MI. They have also been submitted to the international Constitution Committee for review, as required by the *Constitution*.

International

The 2014 International Convention is a constitutional convention, during which members will vote on proposed amendments to the DKG *Constitution*, which can be amended only every four years, and to the *International Standing Rules*, which can be amended every two years.

Proposed amendments have already been submitted to the international Constitution Committee, who will consider the proposals and make recommendations for changes to the Administrative Board for approval before the proposals are brought to the convention for a vote. A notice of all amendments to be voted on by the convention will appear in the March/April issue of the *DKG News*.

One set of amendments that will be presented, in response to a mandate by the 2012 convention, is the set that would enable the Society to hold a general election in which the general membership, rather than state organization presidents, would vote for international officers, other members of the Administrative Board, and members of the Nominations Committee and Finance Committee. By discussing the pros and cons of this issue in our chapters now, and later discussing the proposed amendments as they appear in the *DKG NEWS*, Michigan members can prepare themselves to be informed voters at the convention.

Submitted by Helen Popovich, Beta Kappa, State Parliamentarian



Scholarships and Grants

Are you working on a graduate degree, retraining, or seeking an additional endorsement in education? Delta Kappa Gamma may have some financial help in the form of a scholarship for you.

Alpha Iota State, Michigan offers two \$1,000 scholarships, two \$500 scholarships for retraining and/or additional endorsements in education, and one \$800 scholarship for graduate study.

The Katherine Keeling Memorial Grant supports Michigan members who wish to participate in seminars, workshops, research, and other work designed to contribute to their professional development.

Since this is a convention year, the International Convention Grant is available, one time only, to partially cover the cost of the registration fee for the 2014 International Convention in Indianapolis, IN. The amount of the grant is dependent on the number of applicants, (limited to one per chapter). Application deadline is April 1, 2014.

The Jane Goudreault Memorial Grant is available to two first timers at attend the International Convention. This is the first year that the grant will be awarded.

The Seminar in Purposeful Living Grant of \$500 is available to an active member to participate in the Educational Foundation's Seminar in Purposeful Living. This seminar will take place in Fort Wayne a week before the International Convention.

Information and application forms for any of the Alpha Iota scholarships can be found online at

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/MI>

At the **International** level, the society offers scholarships/grants that support excellence in education and further intercultural understanding.

The Lucile Cornet Award for Professional Development is an Individual award granted to educators for the purpose of participating in professional seminars, workshops, lecture series, national certification, on-line courses, and other non-degree program opportunities. This is awarded four times a year for up to \$2,000. The deadlines are February 1, May 1, and September 1, 2014.

The Golden Gift Fund is used to support a \$6,000 stipend for members to attend a two week Leadership/Management Seminar taught by world recognized faculty. The Seminar will be held in the Summer of 2014, in Austin TX. Deadline is December 1, 2013.

Guidelines and application forms for the International grants and scholarships can be found online at www.dkgef.org

For help or questions contact:

Gloria Fisher, Nu, State Scholarship Chair
1207 Fitch St., Albion, MI 49224, (517) 629-7670
dkgggloria@gmail.com

State Committees



Retired Teachers Will Save Money With Healthy Choices

LivingWell has been updated for 2014

LivingWell is a voluntary program that was developed to help Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System members take charge of their health. For the upcoming year, the Retirement System has made some changes that will help members track their health, identify areas for improvement, and work on an action plan with their doctors.

Get rewarded for taking care of your health

LivingWell rewards members' healthy choices with savings on out-of-pocket costs. Members enrolled in LivingWell for 2014 can save up to \$150 on their annual medical deductible. Keep in mind that members must complete **all three steps** in order to receive \$100 in savings. As a bonus, members have an opportunity to save an additional \$50 by completing step four.

LivingWell in 3 Simple Steps

Complete the health assessment

The LivingWell health assessment is a way to check in on how you're doing with nutrition, exercise, and managing other aspects of your health. Complete the survey and return it in the envelope provided by the deadline. LivingWell surveys will be mailed in December, so watch your mail box for the 2014 health assessment.

Select a primary care physician

Many members already visit a primary care physician for routine and preventive care. **If you already have a primary care physician, enter the doctor's name in** the area provided on the LivingWell health assessment. If you don't have a primary care physician, all you have to do is select one and enter the name in the area provided on the survey. You can use the Find a Doctor tool on bcbsm.com to locate a doctor in your area.

Complete an annual wellness visit with your doctor by March 31, 2014. The third step in this year's LivingWell program is to go to your doctor for a wellness visit. A wellness visit is an annual check-up provided by your doctor. Your doctor will check a number of health indicators, monitor any chronic conditions, discuss your questions or concerns, and order any necessary tests. This visit is provided at no cost to you to give you an update on your health status and start you on the path to LivingWell in 2014.

Bonus Step: Choose a Patient-Centered Medical Home

To receive an additional \$50 savings on your out-of-pocket costs, select a patient-centered medical home doctor as your primary care physician and mark the appropriate box on the LivingWell health assessment. To locate a PCMH doctor, use the Find a Doctor tool on bcbsm.com.

PCMH doctors are located in many, but not all, areas within Michigan. If you live in an area where there are no PCMH doctors, completing the LivingWell 3 step process is your lowest cost option.

- ♦ **Non-Medicare** members enrolled in LivingWell will have a \$550 deductible in 2014. Members who complete all LivingWell requirements and select a PCMH doctor will have a \$500 deductible in 2014.

The importance of working with a primary care physician

A primary care physician is a doctor who focuses on preventive care and the treatment of routine injuries and illnesses. Primary care physicians are doctors who concentrate on any of the following: family medicine, general practice, geriatric medicine, or internal medicine. In addition to providing routine check-ups, health tests and screenings, they coordinate members' care with specialists, hospitals and other providers. Your relationship with a primary care physician is key because he or she is the point person who can help ensure you get the care you need.

Having a relationship with a primary care physician allows you to work with a doctor who is familiar with your health. You can have an ongoing conversation with your PCP about your health goals and your progress toward meeting those goals. These are advantages that make working with a PCP a healthy choice.

Submitted by Judy Foster, Upsilon Chapter, State Legislation Chair

Pins Available for honoring

Chapter Woman of Distinction. RED Letters are on a gold background. The dark areas are raised gold. The DKG letters are in red.

Available at State meetings or via mail with small shipping charge. See Page 2, J-Jay Pechta for contact information.



Key Woman Educator Pin

Pin shows gold laurel leaves with a diamond setting. An open red rose with green leaves outlined in gold on a black background is in the center.

Gold letters read "Key Women Educators."



State Committees

Friend of Education Reminder



This is a reminder to chapters to let us know your Friend of Education honorees in a timely fashion for publication quarterly in the Wolverine.

The Friend of Education Award recognizes persons or groups who have given outstanding support and note-worthy service to education in Michigan. The award may be given by any chapter to an individual or community group that the chapter deems worthy of such recognition.

Chapters determine who is to receive the award and how the award will be presented. It is totally up to the chapter – to establish criteria, to nominate, to confirm, and to present. Alpha Iota State supports your chapter's award by providing **The Friend of Education Certificate** with a seal, thus confirming the award at the state level. The chapter determines who, when, how, and why Friend of Education awards will be given.

For **Guidelines** and **Report Form**, please see the information under **Friend of Education** on the state DKG website

www.deltakappagamma.org/MI

*Submitted by Bernice Haglund, Omicron Chapter,
Alpha Iota State 2nd Vice-president*

Funding Our Purposes Silent Auction



First, a huge thank you to all the chapters that sent a gift for the World Fellowship Auction in Clare. Through your generous donations of 15 large and 9 small items, we were able to raise more than \$1,600 dollars for the support of World Fellowship, Scholarships, and Members Supporting Members. Thank you also for the many buyers of tickets.

Without your financial support, we could not go forward! Thanks, as well, for my great helpers for selling tickets - you ladies were awesome!

Second, just a reminder that in May at the Grand Hotel we are suggesting that items for World Fellowship be smaller, and lighter in size since they must be carried over (and back) on the ferry. Consider getting a recycled suit case to carry your item over on the ferry and the person winning the "basket" will have a way to get the item home. If you intend to donate gift cards, remember that they should be for a statewide (rather than local) retail establishment. As creative as chapter gifts were in Clare, I look forward to the possibilities for the May conference.

Finally, just a reminder that there are two categories for the World Fellowship Auction donations. Items that have a value of \$50 or less are given yellow tickets and they are sold at 6 tickets for \$5. Items valued over \$50 are green tickets and are sold at 3 tickets for \$10. We need items for each category. It might be helpful for members purchasing tickets to bring self-adhesive address labels to put their information on the back of the tickets. It will save lots of writing time! We anticipate great gifts for the auction. Thanks again for your generosity.

Joyce Daglow, Gamma Chapter, State World Fellowship Chair



America's Summer Place

*Did you know these facts about
Mackinac Island and the Grand
Hotel?*

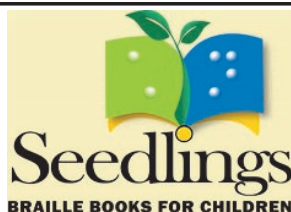
- ◆ Mackinac Island is accessible only by boat or plane
- ◆ All transportation on The Island is by horse, carriage, or bicycle because motorized vehicles are not allowed
- ◆ There are more than 500 horses on Mackinac Island
- ◆ One million people visit Mackinac Island each year, but there are less than 600 permanent residents
- ◆ A jog around the perimeter of The Island is 8 ¼ miles
- ◆ Fort Mackinac, approximately 10 blocks each way from Grand Hotel, has 14 original buildings filled with period pieces, exhibits, costumes, plus, cannon and rifle fire demonstrations
- ◆ Grand Hotel overlooks the Straits of Mackinac between Michigan's lower and upper peninsulas
- ◆ Completed in 1957, the Mackinac Bridge is 26,371 feet in length, the largest span being 3,799 feet; the bridge is about 154 feet above the water, and is 3800 feet tall.
- ◆ The Front Porch at Grand Hotel is 660 feet long, slightly more than 1/10 of a mile

Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel

- ◆ There are 1,375 Geraniums planted on the front porch in 147 planting boxes with 12 yards of potting soil
- ◆ There are 2,500 Geraniums, Grand Hotel's trademark flowers, in all of its flower beds combined
- ◆ Each year 125,000 annuals are planted; 24,120 bulbs are planted each fall, including 18,000 tulips
- ◆ It takes 500,000 gallons of water to fill the Esther Williams pool which is 56 feet longer than an Olympic-size pool
- ◆ Beyond the porch, on the West Bluff, are spectacular cottages built in the 1880's and 1890's
- ◆ There are 13,000 overnight guests at Grand Hotel each season; 100 people prepare and serve 4000 meals each day
- ◆ 6000 Grand Pecan Balls, the hotel's most popular dessert, are consumed each season
- ◆ The 5-millionth guest checked into Grand Hotel on June 26, 2006
- ◆ But, most importantly, WE are returning after an 8 year absence

Michigan Delta Kappa Gamma Members and their guests (friends, family) will be at America's Summer Place May 2-4. Will you be with us?

Chapter News



Gamma Alpha Chapter Sponsors Seedlings Braille Books for Children's Rose Encyclopedia Project

Seedlings Braille Books for Children is very pleased to announce that their "Rose Project" received a \$5,070 grant from The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation. The grant will allow the Livonia based non-profit to continue to provide Free World Book Encyclopedia articles in braille to blind children grades 1-12.

Students from across the United States contact Seedlings via the web, by telephone or email and provide the subject(s) or topic(s) of interest for which they would like information. A staff member produces the articles in braille and sends them to the student's home or school, via UPS, free-of-charge within five business days.

Every year they receive requests from new students and/or students that have recently been diagnosed as visually impaired. The Rose Project allows Seedlings to continue to fill a need in the lives of these students so they can continue to grow and learn and become independent and successful individuals. The DKG Educational Foundation supports and encourages intercultural understanding and educational excellence. Gamma Alpha Chapter, is involved in many projects that aid the community, including awarding grants to women pursuing degrees in education.

Submitted by Judi Fisher, Gamma Alpha Chapter

Articles Wanted

For *The Wolverine* about:

Chapter News

Events/Celebrations

Program Ideas and Resources

Good Works

Please send pictures with captions

Showing members "doing something."

Winter Issue Deadline

December 15, 2013

e-mail-jpechta.dkg@comcast.net

Rookie Reach

Beta Alpha Chapter has initiated a new program entitled "Rookie Reach". The program will mentor and support selected teachers who are new to the teaching field. A goodie bag filled with teaching aids is given to support these teachers. The goodie bag is "Beta Bait" with Delta Kappa Gamma membership ultimately the goal. Arlene Lents and Jackie Luke chairmen of the "Rookie Reach" project are seen packing the "Beta Bait" goodie bags.



Submitted by Nancy Hood, Beta Alpha Chapter Co-president

Community Service Recognition

Alpha Kappa Chapter congratulates Heidi Sunderhaft Christensen for her service to the Muskegon Community.

Heidi is currently the Principal for North Muskegon High School. This year she participated in the Women's Division of the Muskegon Chamber of Commerce production of "Dancing with the Local Stars." The purpose of this three day event is to raise money for local food banks. Heidi was the top producing member of the dancers. Heidi is pictured here in her red stripe stockings and fitted bodice above



layers of white crinoline tulle as she and her partner twirled like sparkling real-life dolls belonging to children of the 1950's."

In addition, to her school job, Heidi also wears the hat of being a Miss Michigan Pageant Board Member. Heidi was recognized by the Muskegon Rotary Club for volunteering time and energy to serve as chaperone and community concierge during the week of this years 50th Miss Michigan Pageant

Alpha Kappa send cheers to Heidi for showing us how to be beautiful, healthy, have fun and be a community helping Delta Kappa Gamma Member.

Submitted by Kay Ostrom, Alpha Kappa Chapter

Chapter News



Preschool students listen to books on tape at the new listening center provided by Phi Chapter funds.



Katie Zemstra, Forest Area Schools art teacher, holds her gift certificate from Phi Chapter as members Jan Updike (L) and Alicia Sanford (R) look on.

Phi Chapter Reaches Out to Educators

Phi Chapter initiated two new projects to involve area educators and encourage membership. The Teacher-to-Teacher Grant was established as a pilot project in one district to assist teachers in the purchase of non-consumable material to enhance student learning in a way that may not be available through the school budget. One district (there are 16 public school districts in our area) was randomly selected to participate and applications were distributed.

A preschool teacher received the first \$250.00 award used for the purchase of equipment and materials for a Listening Center to provide preschool children access to books-on-tape. As stated by the teacher: "Listening to books read by fluent readers helps encourage children to want to learn to read, to develop a love of good literature and to increase their vocabulary. Young children love to listen to their favorite books over and over. Every opportunity to hear these stories brings a preschooler closer to becoming a reader." Due to the success of the project and a successful garage sale fundraiser this spring, Phi Chapter will continue to offer the Teacher-to-Teacher Grant to one district next year and offer more grants based on interest.

Phi Chapter supported the K-12 Student Art Exhibition sponsored by Artcenter of Traverse City. \$250.00 worth of gift certificates and donations of treats for the opening reception were provided by the chapter. The certificates were randomly drawn for both art educators and student exhibitors. Members attended the opening of the exhibition held at the Traverse City District Library. Phi Chapter strives to support education related events in the five county area through monetary donations and volunteerism. It is a great way to introduce educators to DKG and get involved in the community.

Upsilon Chapter Initiates A New Tradition



Delta Kappa Gamma Upsilon Chapter has initiated a new tradition. Kay DePue's family gifted her pins to member Jackie Jancek after she passed away in October 2012. Kay was a Latin teacher at Grand Ledge High School for over 30 years. She became a member of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1954 and served as Upsilon Chapter President from 1970-1972. She was also Upsilon Chapter's first Women of Distinction in 1978. In a small ceremony, Jackie presented Kay's president's pin to current Upsilon Chapter President, Judy Nixon. Kay's pin will continue to be passed on to future Upsilon Chapter presidents in recognition and memory of Kay's dedication to education and her devotion to The Delta Kappa Gamma Society.



Jackie Jancek (L) of Upsilon Chapter, presents Kay DePue's president's pin to current president (R) Judy Nixon.

Northeast Regional Conference Highlights



On Saturday, the Presidents' and Founders' Banquet is held so that the outgoing and incoming presidents of each state and province can be presented. Liz VanWestenburg, incoming President, is escorted by outgoing President Olive Horning for Michigan.

Back Row: Left, Eileen Rodak, Gloria Fisher, Pat Charlton, Dee Lapekas, J-Jay Pechta, Kathy Heatherly Third Row: Left, Sally Garrison, Mary Tracey, Elaine Christensen, Helen Popovich, Loretta Miles, Gloria Richards, Mary Roley Second Row: Left, Mary Hartman, Evelyn Nash, Christina McGrinson Front Row: Nancy Everett, Liz VanWestenburg, Olive Horning (Clown)

The Northeast Regional Conference: Portland Maine



Michigan DKG sisters Shared their Visions this summer in beautiful Portland, Maine during the week of July 24 2013 Northeastern Regional Conference and I must say it was just "Mahvalous!" The weather was cool after the previous blistering week in Michigan for which we were quite grateful and we all had the opportunity to take lessons on how to eat a full lobster and get the most meat out of it several times during the week. We had a wonderful turnout of twenty-five members attend the conference.

We had workshop presenters, choir members, soloists, and an award winner, that would be J-Jay Pechta!. We were also beautifully represented by our lovely new President, Liz VanWestenburg. Training was held for our President on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, while Educational Excellence Chairs, Membership Chairs, Treasurers, Editors, and Webmasters all were trained on Wednesday.

After the First General Session on Wednesday evening, we were delighted to hear some genuine Maine humor from Gary Crocker who was absolutely hilarious. "LOVED the ACCENT!" We, then, heard some wonderful folk music from David Mallett, the composer of the American folk classic, Garden Song. He and his band were absolutely fantastic!

At Thursday's Second General Session, we heard from Susan Poulin, a native Maine writer and actress and creative force behind Ida LeClair who spoke on "Finding your Inner Moose". This was an awesome presentation. Susan Scanlon served as speaker to the U.S. Forum on "Fighting for a Place at the Table."

The Info Fair was very informative and our Vendor Table, Michigan Marketplace did well in sales for our Member-Supporting-Member Fund and Scholarships. The banquet was a beautiful affair with the choir singing a familiar tune, "Celebrate" by Kool and the Gang. The entire room joined in and sang along as we prepared to go home and Strengthen our Society!

P.S. Did I mention we had "lobstah" for dinner?

Submitted by Nancy Everett, Alpha Xi Chapter, State First Vice-president

Northeast Regional Conference Highlights

Pechta Recognized at Northeast Regional as Michigan's Sharing Our Vision - Strengthening Our Society Representative



J-Jay Pechta was presented a Golden Key Necklace by International President Dr. Beverley Helms.

J-Jay Pechta, Wolverine Editor, was honored at the Celebration Luncheon in Portland, ME for her leadership and dedication to Alpha Iota State and DKG International. J-Jay has held many chapter offices and served Alpha Iota State as Recording Secretary, Webmaster, First Vice-president and President of Alpha Iota State. She served on the International

Communications and

Publicity Committee and produced issues of *Broadcasting The Buzz* that circulated internationally.

J-Jay envisioned the Member-Supporting-Member project so that Alpha Iota would reimburse a number of conference registrations. To help with the funding, she donated time share weeks in Hilton Head, Florida and Hawaii to be raffled. Through her efforts, our state has heritage membership pins of which long time members are very proud. Indeed, J-Jay has a vision and strengthens our Society.

Submitted by Olive Horning, Gamma Beta, Immediate Past State President



The Sales Table for Michigan's Scholarship Funds is tended by Elaine Christensen and Gloria Fisher. Thanks to all those who took turns in working.



Kathy Cashen grants-in-aid were awarded to two members to attend the NE Regional Conference. (L to R) Elaine Christensen, Alpha Mu; and Christina McGrinson, Epsilon Chapter.

Lobster Boat Tour

One tour at Northeast Regional in Maine was to go on a working lobster boat. It was the perfect day to be on Cosco Bay, and members of the tour could help with the work of the boat crew. We could help bring up the lobster traps, remove old bait, but in new bait, return the traps to the water, and band the claws of the lobsters that were caught. The boat captain shared information about lobsters, and the rules that must be followed in harvesting them. One of the crew is a teacher during the school year, so we left her with information about DKG.

Submitted by Gloria Richards, Nu Chapter




The Lobster Boat tour guide holds the claw as a DKG member uses a claw banding tool to place the rubber band on the lobster's claws.



Michigan night out dinner- Left to Right: Sharon VanDam, Mary Tracey, Joan Miedema, Helen Popovich and Loretta Miles.

Northeast Regional Conference Highlights

My First Regional Conference



Smiles, enthusiasm and humor abounded at the Northeast Regional Conference in Portland, Maine. The hostesses greeted us graciously and were attentive to our needs. Members of the NE chapters were very friendly and eager to meet each other and share teaching experiences. Several women complimented Alpha Iota for the conference when it was held in Michigan. The breakout sessions were informative and interesting. The presenters were lively and really seemed to enjoy what they were doing, i.e., teaching us.

Although I've attended one international convention and several state conventions, this was my first regional. It never ceases to amaze me the talents, creativity, artistry and eloquence of the women who organize and participate in them. It is evident that much time and energy is involved.

There was a nice variety of activities and breakout sessions. There was strength in the motivating speeches of the speakers. We took away with us these mottoes, "Zoom, zoom," "Oh yeah," and "Yes, I will." Softness was expressed in the music, invocations, and songs sung by the vocalists. There was craftsmanship in the *many* mementoes that were handmade and given to us to take-home. Maine Night gave us the opportunity to sit back and listen to the music of Dave Mallett and be entertained by the stories of Gary Crocker, a Maine comedian.

A broad selection of tours added to our education and enjoyment. The man who conducted the Lobster Bake and Fort Tour, as well as, the man who conducted the Culinary Trolley Tour, were also entertaining with their stories and jokes. The docents for the Wadsworth/Victoria tour kept us captivated with their knowledge of the homes.

When we can be inspired, learn and laugh at the same time, that's a good package!!! I believe DKG women are masters at "packaging."

To use the vernacular of my young nieces and nephews, I can say "I had a blast!"

Submitted by Mary Roley, Beta Delta Chapter



Portland Maine Memories: A First Timer's View

Traveling is always exciting for me, so when I received the call from Gloria Fisher, our Alpha Iota Scholarship/Grants Chair, I embraced the opportunity. I attended my first Northeast Regional Conference (NERC) in Portland, Maine, during the week of July 24-27, 2013. I found the conference to be inspiring, stimulating, and highly motivating.

Each speaker approached our theme, "Sharing Our Vision, Strengthening Our Society," from a different perspective. One speaker delineated where our focus should be as we celebrate our strengths. We should be like the moose, a large animal with peculiar characteristics that still gets the job done. Another speaker suggested that we could zero in on things we need to improve in ourselves by looking within and taking small steps to reach our goals. Yet another expressed that we can begin dreaming big to obtain those things we want in life. The audience continuously shouted its approval with "Oh, Yeah!" and "Zoom! Zoom!" when we were getting revved up to meet a challenge.

An impressive number of attendees – 629 plus one, including more than 120 first timers – enjoyed the conference. During the Mix and Mingle at "Maine Night," I met and socialized with NERC sisters from near and far: Puerto Rico, Canada, Washington, D.C., Illinois, West Virginia, Maine, and of course, Michigan.

The US Forum focused on several issues. The primary discussion centered on what NERC needs to do to get on the national political agenda to help rectify or resolve current problems in education: pensions, budget cuts, teacher evaluations, insurance, merit pay, among others. The sessions on membership were popular; they provided strategies for attracting and maintaining new members, as well as, ideas for keeping the dedicated ones engaged.

Dr. Beverly Helms, International President and cheerleader, encouraged us to keep the Seven Purposes foremost in planning at the chapter level, which is the DNA of our Society. She stressed the importance of "talking up" our Society in our own communities, so that more people will become aware of who we are and what we do.

The conference was an excellent learning experience. I hope that many of you will be inspired to attend either a state or regional conference in the near future. Attending a conference is not only a great way to meet new people and gain fresh perspectives, but also an extraordinary opportunity to see the broader scope of Delta Kappa Gamma in action.

Let me close with a few nuggets that provided food for thought:

- "Managing yourself first is critical."
- "Reactions are often focused on the wrong thing, tasks and not people."
- "Change is often triggered by something outside the control of those most affected by it."

Thanks to the Alpha Iota State Scholarship Committee for the Kathy Cashen Grant that covered the registration fee.

Submitted by Christina McGrinson, Epsilon, Membership Chair and State Personal Growth and Services Committee Member

Northeast Regional Conference Highlights

Digital Stalking

by Dr. Patricia Kubistal

We were shown ways we are tracked in our technical world from over 200 photos of us doing daily activities. Our store savings programs track our buying patterns. Credit card purchases are recorded and the information shared for sales purposes. Your cell phones are tracked and every piece of mail you send. To protect yourself use the latest anti virus programs. Don't fall for signing up for six months free programs, if you forget to cancel you will be billed. Set a security code for your Smart devices. Use thumb drives to back up your information and save it. Never use Wi Fi in hotels to do banking or business with private information. Use 72 percent photo resolution for Internet purposes. See your privacy options for Facebook and use the information to protect yourself and your family. Little is safe in cyber space, so be careful about what you post. Do not allow computers to save your pass codes and never send your credit card numbers by email.

Submitted by Elaine Christensen, Alpha Mu

2013 Educators Award

The winner of the 2013 Educators Award is *Exit: The Endings That Set Us Free* by Sara Lawrence-Lighfoot. "The author explores ways people leave one thing and move on to the next; how humans anticipate, define, and reflect on departures. *Exit* finds wisdom and perspective in the possibility of moving on and marks the start of a new conversation. A committee member commented, 'This is a book I could read countless times. I had difficulty putting it down.'"

Other books which did not win but were highly rated were:

- 17 Women Who Shook the World by Preethi Burkholder
- Born to Rise by Deborah Kenny
- The Teachers' Lounge (Uncensored) by Kelly Flynn
- I Hope I Join the Band by Frankie Condon
- Love, Life, and Elephants: An African Love Story by Dame Daphne Sheldrick

The 2013 Educators Award book was purchased by the state and is available through contact with Sally Garrison, State Executive Secretary.

A list of all books is available on the Michigan Web Site.

Submitted by Eileen Rodak, Zeta Chapter

First Timer's Experience at the Europe Regional Conference



Planes, trains, busses, trams, automobiles, and bicycles! For a woman who has hardly used public transportation, I had a learning experience everyday - more about that later.

Let me tell you about the conference. The conference hotel was the Holiday Inn Express at Sloterdijk Station, Amsterdam. The first people I saw in the breakfast room were Kate York, United Kingdom, Janny Kisteman, Holland, and Marika Katharina Heimbach from Germany. I knew them previously and I was happy to be greeted by them. That day I had some free time for sightseeing and then went to the ROC Conference Center

for our first General Session that concentrated on Citizenship and finished the day at Dutch Night. The Dutch people outdid themselves with entertainment and food. There was a lively Caribbean band to entertain us and soon several members were dancing the night away. What a plethora of food we had – meats, salads, breads, beverages! It was one of the best meals offered to us.

Thursday morning, we attended the second General Session that featured Friendship in Education Worldwide and heard speakers from Canada, Uganda, and The Netherlands. There were many workshops to attend and only twenty people were allowed in each one. This made for a mad crush to get the tickets for workshops we wanted to attend. My workshop, Corrie's Reflections, was well attended with more than twenty people in attendance.

That evening we were treated to a reception at the City Hall where we enjoyed wine and hor d'oeuvres. We found our way there with my Scottish friends who joined us. On the way, we experienced pedestrian hazards such as busses, trams, and especially bicyclists who do not abide by the traffic signals!

On Friday, we went to the Third General Session that concentrated on Education and Technology and attended workshops. I agreed to clown at the Info Fair so Spanish Olive came into being. I had fun playing with the people and two I spoke with were from China! They never expected to meet a clown! Spanish Olive added a little fun to the conference.

That evening we attended a wonderful banquet at Miranda Pavilljoen. I had a chance to visit with more Europeans as we ate dinner. The International Achievement Award was presented to Iceland's Dr. Sigrún Klara Hannesdóttir. Guzel of the Wolga, Tatar singer, delivered many international songs for our listening enjoyment. I ate breakfast with her on Saturday and she told of her harrowing escape from Kazan into Holland.

The conference ended on Saturday with a our Farewell Luncheon and brought mixed feelings. We'd become fond of our new friends and didn't want the time to be over and yet, we were excited about our further travels.

All in all, the conference was like the Northeast Regional in many ways and unlike it in others. All the sessions were very serious in nature and were presented in English. The keynote speakers each had serious topics except for the member who led us in a ten-minute exercise at each general session. It was fun to relax and move around. After the session, members were ready for the coffee break. We are accustomed to large numbers attending our regionals, but there were less than 300 in attendance. However, there were thirty-five members from the United States. Kathy Muench and I represented Michigan.

Submitted by Olive Horning, Gamma Beta Chapter

Women in the Arts



Forty-four women attended the Women in the Arts Retreat which was held on October 17-19, at the Ralph McMullan Conference Center on Higgins Lake. The theme this year was "Roman Holiday." Participants made greeting cards, paper beads, a fusible applique, baskets, home made jewelry, loom knit hats, chrysanthemum pillows, ribbon worked sweatshirts, and other projects in the potpourri class. On Saturday night skits made everyone laugh. Sunday morning was "show-and-tell" time and a safe trip home. Please make a spot on your calendar for next years retreat in order to enjoy a relaxing weekend with creative women in the arts.



Theresa Sedmak, Co-chair of the Women in the Arts Retreat, consults with Diane Frangie on a pattern. Pictured is the WITA Moose mascot in her 16th year of attendance.



Nancy Higgins, co-chair of the Women in the Arts Retreat, is pictured with her chariot as a "Roman on Holiday" spreading the cheer.



Kathleen Rodak and Linda Pastucha of Zeta Chapter work at making baskets.



Gloria Fisher shows the greeting cards that she made while Diane Dray and Judi Fisher work on knitted scarves in the background.



Rosemary Cahaney with Rita Gorang and Janet Cybulski work on making scrapbook paper beads.

Women in the Arts



Pam Husson and Amy Wainwright, Gamma Alpha, and Diane Dray, Omicron, in the back work on knitting scarves.



Shaila Jehle, Alpha Theta, along with Lynne Elsesser and Linda Garner are getting ready to soak their canes in water to make baskets.



Joanne Gardner and Judy Foster, Upsilon Chapter, discuss the workshop schedule.



Zeta ladies dressed for their "Romans on Holiday" skit Saturday evening - Left to Right: Nancy Higgins, Theresa Lorio, Dorothy Nagle, and Kathleen Rodak.



Table top of finished projects include a knitted scarf, fabric applique wall hanging, basket, and fleece petal chrysanthemum pillow.



Kathy Herrington created this nine patch quilt block design over the weekend for entry into a craft show.

International News



The U.S. Forum
is dedicated to being an
advocate for women,
education and children

BY

- ♦ Keeping members informed about pending legislation
- ♦ Maintaining affiliations with other like-minded organizations
- ♦ Surveying members to determine their legislative priorities

National Legislative Seminar

March 16-19, 2014

Holiday Inn/National Airport/Crystal City

2650 Jefferson Davis Highway

Arlington, VA

Registration deadline Feb. 14, 2014

For detailed activities visit:

www.dkg.org, choose Home, go to the very bottom of the Home page

left side,

See U S Forum registration



The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation

Seminar in Purposeful Living

Fort Wayne, Indiana July 23-26, 2014

According to Google Fort Wayne's Claim to Fame:

- ♦ Fifth Safest City in the United States. – InsuranceProviders.com
- ♦ Parkview Field Ranked #1 Minor League Stadium In the United States. – Stadium Journey Magazine
- ♦ First in the Nation for Job Creation! – Fiscal Times
- ♦ One of the Best Cities in the Nation! – National League Cities, Three-time All American City Winner
- ♦ One of the Best Cities for Minor League Sports! – Street and Smith's Sports Business Journal
- ♦ Best Place to Raise Your Kids! – Business Week
- ♦ One of the Nation's Best Children's Zoos! – Parents Magazine
- ♦ Best Public Genealogy Library in the Nation! – Family Tree Magazine

Would you like to See

Vera Bradley Designs, Home of Debrands Chocolate, Grabill Amish Community, The Corvette Museum, Allen County Genealogy Library, Kachman Gallery and Johnny Appleseed Park

Come to the Seminar in Purposeful Living next July!

It will be "A Golden Dream" www.dkgef.org

Educational Foundation Celebrating 50 Years



The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation invites you to help us celebrate their 50 years by adding a lighted candle to their celebratory cake. When you contribute \$50 to the fund, your name will be placed on this website with a lighted candle. Take a look at who is helping the Educational Foundation make a difference in the lives of educators and students.

Would you like to celebrate with us and leave a positive lasting influence by contributing funds for projects that support and encourage intercultural understanding and educational excellence around the globe? Light up the cake and light up educational opportunities by using the Online Contribution Form.

Celebrate by Giving:

- **Give to the Educational Foundation** to honor your friends, your mentors, your chapter, your SELF.
- **Give to the Educational Foundation** to memorialize your loved ones.
- **Give to the Educational Foundation** to celebrate an achievement, to recognize your champions.
- **Give a dollar for each year - just \$50 for 50 years -** and your name will be cited among the celebrants of the Golden Anniversary of the DKG Educational Foundation on the dkgef.org website.

Please take the opportunity to give \$50 for 50 years. The money collected will enhance the numbers and kinds of projects funded by the Educational Foundation. More Information available on the website. www.dkgef.org

Donations are 100% tax deductible for U.S. citizens



THE WOLVERINE



THE WOLVERINE

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Did you know that the first letters in
Delta **K**appa **G**amma are the first
letters in the Greek words for
Teacher, Key, and Women?

Dates to Remember

February 8, 2014

PAC Meeting
Lansing , Crown Plaza Hotel

May 2-4, 2014

Alpha Iota State Convention/Conference
Grand Hotel
Mackinac Island, Michigan

July 23-26, 2014

Seminar in Purposeful Living
Fort Wayne, Indiana

July 28 - August 1, 2014

International Convention
Indianapolis, Indiana
The Marriott Hotel and Towers

October 10-11, 2014

Alpha Iota State
Fall Conference & Executive Board
Firekeepers Hotel
Battle Creek, Michigan