

April 2015

MAY 7th DKG MEETING RETURNING TO OUR ROOTS

As part of our May 7th meeting, we will be touring the Sample School House in Cranberry. It was originally built in 1874 and was one of six one-room schools, used in educating the area's children. It was utilized until 1951 and is now open to show visitors a glimpse of the historical background of the school, information about the children and teachers of the time, and educational practices of a bygone era.

In addition, we received special permission from the Cranberry Township Historical Society and the Cranberry Township Municipality to hold our annual initiation ceremony in the School House following our tour. This will be a unique opportunity for us to connect our modern educational backgrounds with our heritage of the past, providing a "past and present" theme for the evening.

The Cranberry Township manager also plans to attend and to promote our event, by possibly including information and photos of the initiation in their monthly newsletter.

To get in the spirit, you are welcome to dress for the occasion by wearing gloves and hats that female teachers wore a century ago to attend a special occasion such as our initiation. It will help us to form a bond with our predecessors and allow us to travel back in time!

We hope that you can join us for this wonderful opportunity!

Paulette Hemmings
paulette.hemmings@yahoo.com



At the Delta Kappa Gamma State Convention in 1966, hats were very stylish.

THE 2014-2015 CALENDAR

ENGAGE

in the community of Alpha Xi!

Explore Local History

Wednesday, September 17th
The Heinz History Center
Steamboat Arabia

Nurture Your Creativity

Tuesday, October 28th
The Pittsburgh Glass Center
Working with Glass

Gather Consumer Advice

Thursday, December 4th
Luciano's Restaurant in Mars
ID Theft & Security

Affirm life: Organ Donation

Wednesday, February 4th
Trinity Lutheran Church
What is CORE?

Grow DKG Sisterhood

Saturday, March 7th
McCormick & Schmick's,
South Side Works
with Theta Chapter
State President, Kay Stuart

Educate: Past, Present, & Future

Thursday, May 7th
Sample Schoolhouse /
Cranberry Library
Tour & Initiation of New
Members

Check out your website: <http://alphaxipadkg.weebly.com/>
Would you consider becoming web mistress or newsletter editor next year?

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Faith Jack, Membership Chairperson

faithj40@gmail.com

We are excited to extend membership to the following key women educators:

Fran Bogos - Reading specialist then Gifted (GOAL) teacher at North Allegheny Intermediate and NA Senior High. Former Forensics coach and assistant yearbook sponsor – retired

Shari McGill - Government & Sociology teacher at Shaler Area High School

Jill Millard - Librarian at Shaler Area Middle School

Pam Ross - Spanish teacher at North Allegheny Intermediate HS. Retired. Former girls softball coach

Nancy Weixel- Special Ed teacher at North Allegheny Intermediate- retired



The New Members' Orientation Coffee and Dessert will be held at Melody Hannegan's house on April 9th.

Please join us in welcoming them into Alpha Xi at the May Initiation Ceremony on Thursday, May 7 (5:45 pm) at Sample School in Cranberry Township. Meeting and dessert to follow at Cranberry Library.

In Our Community and Beyond:

Diane Goff has helped to organize a benefit event at Northmont Presbyterian Church: A Royal Par Tea for little princesses and princes in the North Hills. All proceeds will go toward medical expenses of 4-year-old Mia Boccardi, who is battling aplastic anemia. Her mother, Leah Erhardt Boccardi is a graduate of North Hills High School. The "par tea" will commence on Saturday, April 18th.

Ellen Rodwick will be teaching a Readers' Theater class in July and August at CMU – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Melody Hannegan is going to be back in the saddle again: subbing this time at Shaler Area High School for a Latin teacher on maternity leave and then will lead a group of Latin teachers through Roman Britain in July.

Karen Ulrich and **Linda Peffer** attended the State Creative Arts Retreat in Ludlow, PA.

Schools for Africa – DKG and Unicef

Our silent auction raised \$169.00

What does our dollar do? *What does our dollar do?*

- \$10 provides a learner kit for one student in Mozambique and Mali.
- \$45 provides learner kits for 10 children in Zimbabwe and Malawi.
- \$125 provides teacher training in Rwanda that benefits 1200 children.
- \$250 will give a School in a Box kit to Burkina Faso that serves 80 children including their transportation.
- \$1500 will fund a grant for 40 orphans in South Africa.
- \$4800 will build a safe water point for a school in Madagascar.
- \$14,000 will build one classroom in Niger and one library in Ethiopia including equipment, furniture, and materials.
- Our dollars benefit nearly 5 million children with an emphasis on girls, orphans, and children living in extreme poverty. We provide the basic necessities such as safe water, HIV education, and health care, as well as schools and teachers so that education can take place.

Our Alpha Alpha State Convention will be held at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College,

Friday, June 12 through Sunday, June 14, 2015

Registration and Lodging Forms can be found at <http://www.alphaalphapa.com/state-convention-forms-2015.html>. Registration deadline is May 12, 2015. If you plan to stay at the Nittany Lion Inn, make that reservation as soon as possible with the code: #DELF15A. At the above web address is also the form to submit for presenting a workshop, due April 10th.

The President's Message

May Meeting: Thursday, the 7th
Greeters: Terry Klein, Sue Phillips, Barbara Rankin
Inspiration: Nancy Penney
Raffle Gift(s): Karen Klingman, Deb McMullen, Ruth Wilson

Finally, it's Spring, Alpha Xi Sisters, and I cannot believe this year is nearing its close.

It was truly wonderful to see so many of you at the March Bi-chapter Meeting with our Theta sisters. Somehow in the midst of a lot of extreme winter weather, we managed to gather on the South Side on a relatively nice morning. Theta president, Janice Ballinger, welcomed us to the meeting and I spoke briefly about compassion, something which can always make a difference in our lives and the lives of others.

After the delicious luncheon, topped off with Crème Brûlée, State President Kay Stuart spoke to "Our Roles, Expectations, and Opportunities". She addressed the importance of our being leaders and being mentors to the young teachers entering our profession. In addition, she enumerated the numerous opportunities membership in DKG give us: in scholarships and grants; teaching materials; chances to speak or present on local to international levels; emergency assistance in times of natural disasters; community service – locally through globally; professional networking; outlets for writing and art; and enrichment travel to a variety of conferences and seminars.

These opportunities begin and, I feel, are most valuable to us at the local level. Once again, I am in awe of the caliber of programs Paulette and her committee continue to plan each year. I firmly believe that the programs are a strong component of the Alpha Xi experience. However, the programs would fall short if it weren't for the members who regularly (and periodically) attend. The networking and fellowship always send me home with a feeling of connection and appreciation for you as individuals. Finally, I cannot say enough about your commitment to service of others. Thank you so much for your positive response to our projects this year. (Plea: Would one or two of you take charge of projects next year? You'll have plenty of helpers!)

Let's all turn out in May to celebrate us: our new members and our veterans! See you there! *Melody*

KEYSTONIAN ONLINE REQUEST FORM

I, _____ (print name) prefer to receive my **Keystonian** online rather than through the mail.

I understand that should my email address change it is my responsibility to notify the webmaster, Cindy Devonshire, cynthia.devonshire@gmail.com, of the change.

Signature _____

Current address: _____

Email Address: _____ (print clearly)

Please return this form to:
Bonnie Barnes
Keystonian Editor
504 East Maitland Lane
New Castle, PA 16105-1420

Or you may email me with your request at iberrylady@aol.com.
Please put "**DKG Go Digital**" in the subject line and provide the exact mailing address from your most recent issue of **The Keystonian**, along with your email address.

Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2015

Bi-Chapter Meeting, Mc Cormick and Schmick
Hosted by Theta Chapter with State President,
Kay Stewart as guest and speaker



After the luncheon and presentation by Alpha Alpha state President Kay Stewart, we met for a brief business meeting.

President Melody Hannegan thanked the Alpha Xi members (17) who attended.

April 9 will be the Orientation for the five new members. They will be sent an invitation, and the sponsors and officers will be invited to attend.

Remember to bring in your item for the Handywoman bucket for State convention.

Raffle tickets for the Pete the Cat chair were sent in an e-mail from Melody. They are also due by the May 7 meeting when we will draw the winner.

Turn your Jared box in to Peg Maser by the May 7 meeting. If you need it to be picked up, call Peg or Karen Ulrich.

Reservations at the Nittany Lion Inn are now available for the State convention, June 12, 13, 14.

We have three Album of Distinction nominees—Faith Jack, Darlene Farrell, and Dede Rittman.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Ulrich, Recording Secretary.

Members enjoyed a tasty luncheon and fellowship at McCormick and Schmicks. (bottom right): Janice Ballinger, President of Theta, Kay Stewart, Alpha Alpha State President and Melody



Who are these Alpha Xi women, providing music for a 1966 meeting?

Project Reminders:

- ❖ Your Jared Boxes are due to Peg Maser or Karen Ulrich by May 7th and may be brought to the meeting. We will deliver the boxes to Children's Hospital in June.
- ❖ All raffle tickets and money for the child's chair are also due by the May meeting. The drawing will be held at the reception that evening.
- ❖ Our Handywoman's Tool Box is looking really good. If you still have an item to donate for it, please bring it to the May meeting. (If you cannot attend the meeting, but have these contributions, please give them to another member or email/call Melody.)



THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015

**SAMPLE SCHOOL HOUSE AND CRANBERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY
2525 ROCHESTER ROAD, CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP, PA 16066**

PROGRAM:

To conclude with our theme this year to **ENGAGE**, May's meeting will focus on **E**ducating for the Past, Present and Future. We will tour the Sample School House to reflect on the history of our profession and then within the School House, we will conduct our annual ceremony to initiate new members into Alpha Xi, looking ahead to the future of our chapter. Following the initiation, we will move next door to the Cranberry Public Library for refreshments and our business meeting.

SCHEDULE:

Tour of the Sample School House and Initiation: 6:00-7:00

Refreshments and Business Meeting: 7:00-8:00

PROJECT REMINDERS:

If you haven't already turned them in, please bring your donation of a handywoman tool for the state raffle basket, your completed Jared Boxes, and your completed raffle tickets and money for the chair raffle.

MENU:

Dessert and beverage

COST: \$4 PER PERSON

To cover the price of admission to the Sample School House, dessert and beverage

Reservation and payment due by April 24, 2015

Payment: Check payable to Delta Kappa Gamma, sent to:

Paulette Hemmings

5052 Windriver Drive

McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Questions? Contact Paulette at 412-331-7894 or paulette.hemmings@yahoo.com

YOUR NAME: _____

ANY PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL NEWS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE MEMBERS?