

The Alpha Xi Messenger

August 2019



You Have a Voice and a Choice: The 2019-2020 Alpha Xi Program

DATE	PROGRAM	VENUE
Thursday, September 11, 2019	The Vietnam War: 1945-1975 Exhibit	Heinz History Center Smallman St. - The Strip District
Wednesday, October 9, 2019	P. Buckley Moss – the artist (Claudia McClelland)	The Springfield Grille Rt. 228 - Mars
Wednesday, November 6, 2019	Food Demo and Dinner	Revival on Lincoln Bellevue
Thursday, January 16, 2020	Sustainable Engineering (Melissa Costantino)	DiPietro's in West View
Thursday, March 12, 2020	Easy Arts and Crafts (Darlene Farrell)	Shaler North Hills Library Mt. Royal Blvd. in Shaler
Sunday, April 26, 2020	Induction and Installation Ceremonies	Diamond Run Golf Club Ohio Township

The President's Message



Greetings, sisters!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. I always have hopes of being more productive with projects, but the enticement of an endless summer has me pursuing more leisure activities. I consider it time well-spent with family and friends.

The Executive Board met in August, and we reviewed the reports of the Program, Finance and Teacher Enrichment Grant committees. You have already received the information regarding the Teacher Enrichment Grants and are being asked to help distribute the files to active teachers in the four representative districts: Avonworth, North Allegheny, North Hills and Shaler Area. Keep in mind that in addition to funding 2-3 Enrichment Grants this year, we are utilizing this as an opportunity to garner publicity and gain some new members.

The Program Committee has done another wonderful job, and they have provided us with a great calendar of programs. We'll start off with an Alpha Xi perennial favorite at the Heinz History Center to catch the Vietnam War Exhibit before it closes. Terry Klein has attached the RSVP. Please note that the RSVPs will be going to Marg Foster who has agreed to help out this year since Debbie Steinmetz has moved to Maryland. We'll miss Debbie, but wish her well in her new adventure. Thank you to Marg for taking on this role and to Terry for heading the committee.

Shari McGill and I attended State Convention in June and had a wonderful time. Shari heard her friend, Dr. Angela Bloomquist, deliver the keynote address on Saturday and I presented "Voices through Time: What I Learned from My Mother's Roller-skate Case." In the afternoon sessions, Shari had a yoga lesson, and I



experienced Escape Room in the Classroom. In addition, State President Eileen Little outlined her platform: "You Have a Voice and a Choice." During her biennium, the state project will be STEM Education. To see highlights from the convention, visit the state website: <https://dkgpa.weebly.com/> where you can also access *The Keystoneian*.

Hope to see everyone at the History Center on September 11th!

Respectfully,

Faith Jack
President, Alpha Xi
faithj40@gmail.com



Faith receives her grant at the PA Convention

Dates to Keep in Mind:

June 12-14, 2020 - PA State Convention and Leadership and Professional Development Seminar, Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA

July 7-11, 2020 – International Convention, Philadelphia, PA (hosted by PA and neighboring states – volunteers are needed)

July 12 – 16, 2020 - New York City Getaway Tour after International Convention (GoAhead Tours with DKG)

October 9-16, 2020 – San Francisco and Wine Country Tour (GoAhead Tours with DKG)

For more information about the International Convention and tours, see the events page at www.dkg.org.

THE JARED BOX PROJECT Peg Maser

On July 19th, Karen Ulrich and I delivered the 34 Jared boxes that our members lovingly created. We were welcomed by the Director of Donations just outside of the main entrance to UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. I guarantee that there will be 34 smiling faces on the recipients of those beautiful boxes.

On a sad note, however, I must tell you that the Director happened to open a box while we were talking and discovered a lovely needlepoint glasses case inside. She then informed us that the hospital policy regarding handmade items has changed. They are no longer acceptable. I offer you my whole hearted apology if you included a handmade item. I was so shocked that I failed to ask for them to be returned to me! My Jared Box had a fleece blanket with crocheted edges. I am sure it was removed leaving its fate unknown to me. The new rules also forbid handwritten notes, so all of our heartfelt messages were removed as well.

Although these new policies seem very restrictive, the Jared Boxes still are a welcomed, worthy project.

In Memoriam – Nancy Penney unexpectedly passed away on June 1st. Several DKG sisters were among the many who filled her memorial service on July 13th. We will celebrate Nancy's life at our October 9th meeting.





Alpha Xi Chapter Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
General Meeting Minutes
Diamond Run Golf Club – Martial Arts Demonstration by Jade Leung
April 27, 2019

Faith Jack President called the meeting to order.

Greeters/Inspiration/Fund Raiser by the Avonworth Members, Phyllis Jenny read “We Pray for Children” as the Inspiration. Members asked that she share the printed copy – Melody will pass it on.

RECORDING SECRETARY REPORT

Shari McGill The minutes were approved with no corrections needed.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY REPORT

Darlene Farrell reported that we received an invitation from Barbara Summers of Alpha Epsilon to attend their May 15th meeting “All That Glitters” at Hillcrest Country Club.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Marg Foster also reported our balance on hand is \$4,421.18. Due in June, yearly dues are \$85.00. The Grant amount totaled \$571.00. The report is to be filed for audit.

PROGRAM REPORT

Terry Klein and Debbie Steinmetz planned the April program at Diamond Run. The presenter was Jade Leung who demonstrated “Creative Arts Meets Martial Arts” a number of self-defense techniques and various passes of Martial Arts. Thank you Jade! Ideas/suggestions for next year’s programs were requested. Sisters again said how nice it is to be able to pay early for the meetings.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Sandy Werderitch has DKG International brochures for distribution to promote our grant.

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Membership News

Barb Rankin underwent shoulder replacement surgery on June 26th and is continuing to rehab.

Jan Graner’s daughter, Kelly, graduated from Penn State on May 5th and then hiked the Appalachian Trail.

Ellen Rodwick took fun classes on plays and singing while in Naples last winter.

Melody Hannegan and **Terry Klein** ran into **Jade Leung** at a Pirates Game – Hawaiian Shirt Night.



(minutes – continued from page 3)

SOCIAL REPORT

Phyllis Jenny asked us to reveal our Secret Sisters. Such FUN!

TEACHER ENRICHMENT GRANT/WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEES

Paulette Hemmings shared a packet for the Teacher Enrichment Grant to be distributed at the beginning of the school year. The winning female teacher(s) will be invited to attend a meeting to accept her grant, with her meal being paid for by DKG. If she wishes to bring guests, they will need to pay for their own dinner. Marg Foster made a motion to establish the Teacher Enrichment Grant as presented and Melody Hannegan seconded. The Standing Rules committee will revise the Standing Rules accordingly.

PROJECTS REPORT

Peg Maser thanked the membership for the Jared Boxes and will take them to Children's Hospital with Karen Ulrich. Shari McGill has forms for Dress For Success tax exemptions.

NEW BUSINESS

Darlene Farrell offered to make a Dollar Cake for our State Convention Basket. Peg Maser made a motion for \$50 a contribution to the basket from the refund we received from the Multi-chapter meeting and Jade Leung seconded it.

Deb McMullen created new pin and crest posters for use in our induction ceremonies as the old signs were damaged by water. Many thanks to her for this beautiful contribution to the chapter.

REMINDER

State Convention is June 14-16, 2019. May 13th is the last day to register. Faith is receiving an Enrichment Grant.

The meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Shari McGill

September 11th Meeting

The Executive Board
Greeter: Paulette Hemmings
Inspiration: Shari McGill
Raffle Basket: Bob Stakeley
from the Heinz History Center
and Melody Hannegan

Dede selling her Grady and student teacher materials at convention.



Proceeds from last year's raffle baskets, wrapped coins, and donations were \$775.42 and will fund the Teacher Enrichment Grant(s) this year. We will continue the wrapped coins drive and Darlene will supply wrappers at our first meeting. We will also continue to sponsor each of the following meetings by school district.

Iceland: Phyllis and Melody's Great DKG Adventure

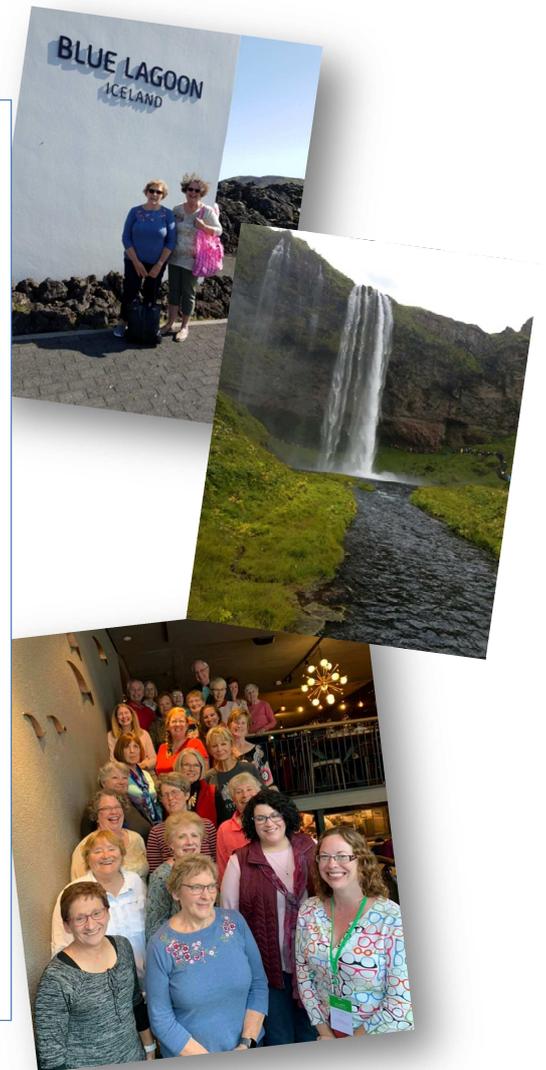
Melody Hannegan

When Phyllis and I saw that DKG was offering a tour of Iceland (through GoAhead Tours – adult division of the student travel agency EF), we decided to sign on. We departed on July 28th for our 4 day tour of this strangely beautiful land.

With the capital city of Reykjavík as our home base, we set out to view the city itself, waterfalls, geysers, glaciers (from a distance), whales and puffins (also from a distance), and the tumultuous Black Sand Beach. My personal favorite was the Blue Lagoon – the largest “hot tub” I’ve experienced, complete with a facial mask, a berry sparkling wine, the palest blue water and new found friends. My happy place!

Our group consisted of 23 Americans, 2 Canadians, and 1 member from Mexico. USA DKG members hailed from California, Virginia, South Carolina, Iowa, and Texas. There were 3 mother-daughter sets, 2 sisters and 2 brave husbands on the trip. We had a great chance to chat about DKG.

I highly recommend traveling to Iceland and also signing on to future DKG tour.



DRESS FOR SUCCESS

Shari McGill

We will once again be donating gently used women's clothing to this caring organization which helps those less fortunate to re-enter the workforce. This project will begin in October, so start gathering clothes from your friends and family too. DFS is very grateful to DKG for all the bags of clothing we have donated to this great cause.

TEACHER ENRICHMENT GRANT REMINDER

\$250.00 grant
Deadline: postmarked by
September 27, 2019

The application can be
found on our homepage:
[https://alphaxipadkg.
weebly.com/](https://alphaxipadkg.weebly.com/)