

August 2013

Delta Kappa Gamma

# President's Message

Alpha Xi Programs: Meant to  
**Enrich**  
2013-2014 Calendar

**ENHANCE - Thursday,  
September 12, 2013**  
Program: Volunteer  
Showcase Activities: New  
Member Initiation and  
Ceremony of Life Location:  
Walnut Grill, Wexford

**NARRATE - Wednesday,  
October 23, 2013** Program:  
Pittsburgh Humor Columnist,  
Peter McKay Location:  
Sesame Inn, Brown's Lane and  
McKnight Road

**RECEIVE - Saturday, December  
7, 2013** Program: Darlene Farrell:  
Celebrate the Holidays with  
Cookie Cutters Activity: Holiday  
GRAB Bag Location: Willow,  
Camp Horne Road

**INVOLVE - Thursday, February  
6, 2014** Program: Susan Frantz  
- extending the classroom  
beyond walls and into the  
community Activity: Invite  
guests to attend the  
meeting Location: Trinity  
Lutheran Church, Brandt  
School Road

**CREATE - Tuesday, March 18,  
2014** Program: Learning how to  
paint Activity: Election of Officers  
for the 2014-2016 Biennium and  
New Members Location: Paint  
Monkey, Cranberry Twp.

**HONOR - Saturday, May 3,  
2014** Activity: Initiation of New  
Members and Installation of  
2014-16 Officers Program:  
Harpist, Deborah  
Stackrow Location: Treesdale  
Country Club, Pine Township

**Ladies- remember that your  
DKG dues are due by  
October 15<sup>th</sup>. \$82.00 is the  
fee. Send to: Marg Foster,  
200 Goldsmith Rd. Pgh, PA  
15237**

Hello Ladies,

Where does the summer go? As you read this letter, I know some of you are ready or about ready to go off to a new school year with lots of great expectations and plans for the upcoming season. It is also a little scary to meet the new students and whatever new expectations that the district or state has added to your plate. However, I hope receiving information about the upcoming year of DKG is uplifting and inviting you to a new adventure.

Paulette and her committee have worked on a diverse program for the year to involve and empower many of our members and to stretch our gifts and talents.

As you receive this letter, I will be traveling across the US in my motor home. I unfortunately will not be at the first meeting. I trust that Paulette and Phyllis will do an excellent job of kicking off the year. I plan to return in time for our second meeting and to pay my dues on time.

This first meeting is also the meeting where we pass the budget and establish plans for the upcoming year. So please be sure to attend. We will be inducting 3 new members, and we will be offering a celebration of life for the ladies who have died this past year:

Lois Crummie, a member from 2008 to 2013  
Carolyn Pettitt, a member from 1998 to spring 2013  
B. J. (Betty) Robertson, a member from 1963 to spring 2013  
Marion Plank, a member from 1969 to spring 2013

During the meeting we will be asking YOU to talk about places you volunteer and to share your enthusiasm to encourage others to find a life outside of school. Be sure to RVSP to Paulette. See page 4 for more details. Be sure to RSVP by Sept 1.

Did you know that this is my last year in this role of president? So we are hoping many of you will step forward to assume some leadership roles within our chapter. We have been experiencing some growing pains, and we need all of your ideas and contributions to continue to make our chapter great.

So, let's all get off to a good September,  
Barbara MacDonald      bmacd@zoominternet.net

**We need volunteers to chair the following committees:**  
Scholarship/Grant in Aid- this is the year we give  
an award  
World Fellowship  
Research  
Social-to organize raffle baskets, greeters, and  
inspirations  
Please consider giving back to DKG by donating an  
hour or two this year.

For our **September meeting**,  
we will collect **non-perishable items**  
to fill backpacks for children at  
WestView Elementary in the North Hills School District.

# Alpha Alpha State Convention June 14-16, 2013 at the Nittany Lion Inn

By Barbara MacDonald

Some of the highlights of the convention include:

26 Women across the state were recognized as Women of Distinctions. Award winners include authors, elected officials in the community as well as teachers of the year or college alumni awards across the state. Think about what service awards you may receive other than from Delta Kappa Gamma and apply next year. Alpha Xi was not rewarded this year.

Alpha Xi received recognition for our chapter website. Thanks Melody.

Alpha Xi received recognition for our chapter newsletters. Thanks Faith and Barb.

Phyllis Jenny received an Enrichment Grant for her trip to Hawaii. Terry Klein received an Enrichment Grant for her trip to Portugal. Barb MacDonald received an Enrichment Grant for her trip across the USA in her motor home. These ladies will then be writing articles for the Keystonean and may be asked to do a workshop at the state convention in 2014.



The **new state by-laws** were passed. We did ask for clarification regarding the years of the Purposeful seminar and Arts retreat. In part the Purposeful seminar will include leadership training to replace fall conferences to train the new presidents. This will occur in the fall of the even years. The arts retreat will occur in the spring of the odd year. This is a change from past practices.

Louann Schrader, outgoing state president, is trying to find a model to keep all members engaged since many chapters are losing young retirees. It is suggested that we need to find ways to engage our members by serving on committees to advance the society.

Alpha Alpha State adopted a **new Strategic Action Plan** and guidelines were given to allow chapters to continue to explore a new Strategic Action Plan.



**New State Officers** include Kay Stuart, President; Tracey Dusch, first vice-president; Barbara Gasperini, 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president; Vanessa Sral, recording secretary; and Candace Clair, Corresponding Secretary. We also have a new state treasurer in Wanda Keller.

The Alpha Alpha State Budget for 2013-14 was approved with no dues increase. That is good news. There was some discussion about 1/3 of the budget being for the printing and mailing of the Keystonean. A suggestion was made to have members receive this document electronically and the chapter seeing that those members not able to receive email receive theirs through the chapter. This is something that needs to come from the chapters, and I suspect may come up for a motion next year. We will need to discuss your thoughts on this.

On Sunday during the **Memorial Service Lois Crummie** was honored along with 31 other sisters from across the state.

Please consider attending the State Convention in 2014. The dates are June 13-15 at the Nittany Lion Inn.

## **Vision of Kay Stuart, new Alpha Alpha State President**

What are the benefits of membership? Try and Try again to empower each other to do amazing things. YOU are a leading women educator. Act intentional. Address the Seven Purposes. Make Positive Changes. Join in the adventure as we engage, equip, empower and envision strengthening our chapters.

## **Spiritual Unity Service**

During this Sunday service, recognition was given to the characteristics of "Our Trailblazers" or State Achievement Award Winners. This includes our own **Barbara Rankin** who achieved this honor in 2004. Since this is one of the few conventions, Barb has missed it was great that she was at least their in spirit as she completed the interview materials for this recognition serve.

There were 46 raffle baskets contributed by the 49 chapters in attendance to raise a total of \$2921. Thanks to those of you who contributed to the Alpha Xi basket.

## More convention Notes: Susan Scanlon and the National Women's History Museum –

Susan was inducted as an honorary DKG member at the convention. August 26 is Women's Equality Day. March is Women's History Month.

Until 1930 more women died in childbirth than men died on the battlefield. Less than 10% of history books give credit to women and their role. Women leaving corporate America to start business have five times the success rate of men. More women vote. More women are democrats. There was a 20 point gender rate difference in the O'Bama vs. Romney election. Women live longer with less money. Women already have a virtual history, and are still working to develop an actual building to house their history.

Take a virtual women's history tour at [www.nwhm.org/online-exhibits/](http://www.nwhm.org/online-exhibits/) Find lesson plans etc. to find out more about the part women played in history. Contact your legislature to establish a commission to help create a brick and mortar Women's History Center.

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## Meeting Minutes, Sewickley Speakeasy April 25, 2013

President Barbara MacDonald started the meeting at 5:00 p.m. Ellen Rodwick read the inspiration about teachers and their abilities. Joyce Geisler, Ellen's guest, was introduced. Karen Klingman moved and Peg Maser seconded that the minutes from the March and February meetings as printed in the current newsletter be approved. Motion carried. Peg Maser, Corresponding Secretary, reported on cards sent to members and to World Fellowship recipients studying at Carnegie Mellon University and at Penn State.

Marg Foster, Treasurer, read the Treasurer's report, which showed a balance of \$3,358.64.

Ellen Rodwick reported on projects. We had taken books for the Millvale Library, and she read a letter from the Ethiopia Reads officials thanking us for our donation. Ellen also agreed to remain as Projects chair and passed around a signup sheet for anyone interested in helping her with a project

Terry Klein announced a sorting meeting at Millvale Library on Saturday, April 27 to sort/cull books to prepare for their opening.

The attendance award was won by Melody Hannegan (in absentia, since she was playing grandma in Chicago). The names of those who had attended every meeting of the year were in a basket, and the name was pulled for a winner.

Paulette Hemmings discussed plans for the Program Committee to meet regarding plans for next year. We still need a World Fellowship and a Social

chair for next year. Notify Barb MacDonald if you are interested in filling one of these positions.

State convention will be attended by Barb, Phyllis Jenny, and Melody on June 14-16.

Barb discussed proposed changes to the state Constitution.

Joys and Concerns: Areta Kalogeras is doing well. Phyllis, Terry Klein, and Barb MacDonald have been awarded Enrichment Grants for travel.

Three new members were initiated: Melissa Consentino, Sandy Werderitch, and Lynn Rahl. (Three others will be initiated in the fall because they were unable to attend.)

The meeting ended with the singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma song. Dinner followed, and entertainment by the West Wind Quintet completed our final meeting of the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Ulrich



Our new members-  
Top Sandy Werderitch with Faith Jack  
Middle-Melissa Costantino-Poruben with Paulette Hemmings.  
Bottom Lynn Rahl and Susan Phillips

## Details and Special Notes:

Note from Melody:

For the coming state biennium, I will serve as one of four co-chairmen of The Educational Excellence Committee. This committee is the result of the reorganization of the international and state committees and is reflected in the changes to the Alpha Alpha State By-laws. The previous committees of US Forum, Projects, Professional Affairs, and Visual and Performing Arts now fall under the auspices of Educational Excellence. I will be overseeing the state project(s) for the next two years. The state president usually determines the project and sometimes aligns it with the international project. I know that Kay Stewart wants to continue to focus on literacy. I will have additional information later this summer. From time to time I may be calling upon our chapter to assist in this endeavor. I thank you all in advance for your support.  
Melody

### 2013-2014 PROGRAM NEWS

Thanks to all of our members who sent in surveys with suggestions for upcoming meetings! The Program Committee appreciated your comments and ideas, many of which centered on getting members more involved and active in meetings with hands-on participation, so the majority of this year's meetings will focus on the talents and interests of our marvelous members, and getting to know each other! We will learn from each other, interact and have fun! And one of our meetings will offer an exciting and unique opportunity to create an artistic masterpiece that we can take home!

The Program Committee has worked to keep costs low, while offering stimulating programs at a variety of venues and locations. Thanks to Barb MacDonald, Phyllis Jenny, Peg Maser, Karen Ulrich and Melody Hannegan for their assistance! We hope that you will join us for what should be an enlightening, entertaining and engaging year!

Paulette Hemmings

### Mark Your Calendar

Important Dates from Alpha Alpha State  
**June 13-15, 2014** Alpha Alpha State Convention,  
Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA

**July 28 to August 1, 2014**  
International Convention  
Indianapolis, Indiana

## Membership Dues

Deadline for dues (\$82) is October 15, 2013. Checks for \$82 should be written to Delta Kappa Gamma and either be given to Marg Foster at the September meeting or sent to:  
Margaret Foster  
200 Goldsmith Rd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
Thank you for your prompt attention to dues. If you have any questions either call Marg at 412-486-7672 or email her at: margfoster4@gmail.com.  
Keep up the good work and continue to seek outstanding women educators in our schools and communities and invite them to attend one of our meetings.

## VOLUNTEER SHOWCASE The EMPHASIS is on you!!

As part of the program for the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, we would like our members to briefly explain volunteer work that they do. In a 3-4 minute talk, you can tell us about your organization and your role there. If you like, you could also bring brochures or materials to the meeting to further illustrate the goals and activities of your group.

You'll: EDUCATE us about your organization.  
EXPLAIN your duties there.  
ENRICH us.  
EMPHASIZE the benefits of volunteerism.  
ENCOURAGE us to get involved.

We can: EXPLORE your organization.  
EMBRACE your suggestions.  
ELECT to get involved.  
ENJOY the feeling of making a difference.

Hopefully, this will ENTICE you to sign up to present at the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting so that you can ENERGIZE and EMPOWER us!!

## Projects A-Plenty

First, a final report on two projects from last Spring. The books remaining from our Used Book Sale on February 5th were donated to the Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry Book Sale in May. They were grateful to receive our donations, which will enable them to continue to offer their services to the community. The profits will help subsidize the cost of tutoring and counseling for those with limited financial resources or inadequate mental-health insurance.

As usual, you came through with donations of 35 new books for the new Millvale Library. These books ranged in age from kindergarten through high school, and met their requests for both fiction and non-fiction items. Once again, our members are helping to support literacy - and in our own community!

Now, our projects for the coming year. For our **September meeting**, we will collect **non-perishable items** to fill backpacks for children at WestView Elementary in the North Hills School District. These children qualify for free or reduced price lunches at school, and our contributions will help ensure that they have food on the weekends. If you want to watch for sales, be on the lookout for **canned fruit or fruit cups, dried fruit, oatmeal, trail mix, almonds, microwave popcorn, applesauce packs, spaghetti, canned veggies, baked beans, fruit juice, low sodium soups, whole grain crackers, jelly, peanut butter, pudding packs, canned meat, tuna, salmon and chicken, ravioli, easy mac& cheese, vegetable juice, granola bars, snack sized foods, low sugar/high fiber cereal in single serving sizes, and non-perishable milk products, such as Ensure. PLEASE BRING THESE ITEMS TO OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING. IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND, PLEASE PURCHASE ITEMS AND GIVE THEM TO A MEMBER WHO WILL BE THERE.**

Many folks have asked to repeat the "Jared Box" project again. We will fill and decorate plastic storage boxes with small gifts, toys, cards, games, and art materials. These will be distributed to chronically ill children at Children's Hospital. We'll meet once more at Ellen Rodwick's home to put them together. Be on the lookout for markers, stickers and other

decorative materials to make the outside of the boxes appealing. So start checking out sales now for items you can donate to fill and decorate these magical boxes!

Room to Read is a program building libraries in Asia and Africa's most war scarred destitute spots. They wish to reach 10 million children by 2015. Communities must show motivation to receive a school, library, or native language books. Villages provide teachers, materials or labor. We can collect money to help them continue their valuable work. So, as you read during the lazy days of summer, pick out a recipe from a favorite book. We'll ask you to copy it for others, and to donate the cost of the ingredients! A tasty proposition!

Our ongoing project continues to be saving pop-tabs for Karen Klingman's great nephew, who is a patient at Shriner's Hospital, and collects the tabs as a community service project. Keep those tabs coming!!!

Thank you for your continued support!  
Ellen Rodwick and Deb McMullen



### Great News for Alpha Xi

Melody Hannegan and Phyllis Jenny, under the leadership of Paulette Hemmings have completed the Alpha Xi by-laws. These will be reviewed at meetings this year with final adoption for 2014-16 term.



**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA PROGRAM**

September 12, 2013  
Walnut Grill  
12599 Perry Highway  
Wexford, PA 15090

**PROGRAM:**

To begin this year, we will initiate three new members. We will also present a brief Ceremony of Life to honor four former DKG members, and we will conclude with a Volunteer Showcase, so our members can share information about the organizations with which they volunteer.

**SCHEDULE:**

Social Time: 4:45-5:00  
Initiation: 5:00-5:30  
Business Meeting: 5:30-6:00  
Meal: 6:00-6:45  
Program: 6:45-7:30

**MENU:**

**Entrée Choice:** \$20 each

- Wild Mushroom Chicken in a light cream sauce
- Walnut Salmon, pan seared with a walnut crust and orange marmalade
- Marinated Sirloin, oak and burgundy marinated, served with crispy onions

**Included with your entrée:**

- House salad with dressing
- Baked potato
- Cake
- Soft drinks, coffee and iced tea
- Tax and gratuity

**RESERVATION, SELECTION AND PAYMENT DUE BY SEPTEMBER 2, 2013**

**CHECKS MADE OUT TO: DELTA KAPPA GAMMA**

**SEND TO:**

Paulette Hemmings  
5052 Windriver Drive  
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Questions? Contact Paulette at 412-331-7894 or [paulette.hemmings@comcast.net](mailto:paulette.hemmings@comcast.net)

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**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR MENU SELECTION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YOUR VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION THAT YOU COULD DISCUSS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ANY PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL NEWS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH MEMBERS:**

**August 2013**

**Have You Heard?**

*News from Alpha Xi Sisters*

*Barbara MacDonald is traveling out west in her motor home. Thanks to Phyllis and Paulette for chairing the September meeting.*

*Phyllis Jenny spent a week in Hawaii with her daughter and two grandchildren, visiting three islands there.*

*Shirley Stevens is doing well after her knee replacement surgery and plans to visit Oregon in August.*

*In August, Faith Jack and a coworker will be traveling to Hawaii where they will stay in Waikiki four nights and Maui five nights.*

*Sandy Werderitch and her husband celebrated their anniversary on a Mediterranean cruise in July.*

Of Special Note: PA state or Alpha Alpha State DKG has a new website of [alphaalphapa.com](http://alphaalphapa.com) which is now linked to the International site ([dkg.com](http://dkg.com)). We will be able to link our website to the state's.

**Delta Kappa Gamma  
Alpha Xi Chapter**

Peg Maser  
109 Carriage Hill Rd  
Glenshaw, PA 15116-1015



*New Alpha Xi website:*  
• <http://alphaxipadkg.weebly.com/>