

# President's Message

## Wanted for October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting

Check your childrens' or grandchildrens' toys please for:

**Mr. Potato Head  
Small Rocking Horse  
Lite-Brite  
Weebles**

Please let Barb (724-776-2029) know if you can bring any or all of these to our meeting. If you have them and are not coming to the meeting, still let Barb know so she can arrange to borrow them.

Thank you.

Hello Ladies,

Time is flying by. We are looking forward to our October meeting. I want to thank those of you who went with us to the Heinz History Center to learn about the History of the Strip District. And we thought it was named for some Penn Avenue activity. It was disappointing that so few were able to make this meeting. We hope to see more of you in the future.

Remember to pay your dues or let Marg know if you are not returning with a reason (asked for by international). That will save us tracking you down later in the month.

At the September meeting, yearbooks were distributed. We will continue to distribute them at the October meeting and then after that mail them along with your membership cards. It will save us monies if you come to the October meeting or ask a friend to pick yours up.

For our October meeting, we would encourage you to bring an early career educator. One of the international focuses for Delta Kappa Gamma is to encourage early career teachers. You might even want to share the cost of the evening with them (maybe by paying part of their dinner fee). The topic of Toy Box Leadership is designed to encourage discussion and member participation to explore toys and the lessons we learned from them. The topic is based on a book of the same title by Ron Hunter, Jr. and Michael E. Waddell. It was a session that I participated in at the North East Regional in Hershey in 2011. Your RSVP form is attached to this email.

I wish to thank those of you who contributed to the food drive for North Hills School District's West View Elementary. I know those families who use this food to feed the children over the weekends welcome these food items. (Local Project)

For October, we are asking members to contribute the cost of a dinner out to help folks in Arkansas Delta and Appalachia learn how to sustain productive farming methods under "Seeds of Change" which is part of Heifer International. (National Project)

We look forward to our continued working together. **Your participation is important to help make our chapter a success.** The officers welcome your input and feedback.

Barbara MacDonald  
President



*Memories ...* Deb Stackrow presents Barb MacDonald with the scrapbook covering her first Biennium. Barb agreed to serve a second Biennium.

## Membership Dues

**Deadline for dues (\$82) is October 15, 2012.**

Checks for \$82 should be written to Delta Kappa Gamma and be 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](mailto:margfoster4@gmail.com).

## Next Meeting: Mon., Oct 22

**I=Investing in Our Future** - Domenico's Cranberry at 4:45

**Invite early career teachers or future members**

"Toys and Leadership" by Barb MacDonald

**RSVP by Oct. 10**



## State Convention 2012

**Delta Kappa Gamma**  
Alpha Alpha State Convention  
June 8 – 10, 2012  
Nittany Lion Inn

The 75<sup>th</sup> Alpha Alpha State Convention was held in State College, PA at the Nittany Lion Inn from June 8 – 10, 2012. On Friday afternoon, the conference kicked off with a Founder's Day Tea, a tribute to the women who began Delta Kappa Gamma. Our own Barb Rankin was incognito as one of the original founders.

On Friday evening, a presentation of the 2012 Album of Distinction took place. Twenty-one women received this award. Marg Foster was honored at this ceremony for her "2012 Pennsylvania Outstanding Contributor to School Library Programs Award". She was given this award by the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association at their Annual Conference in April in Hershey, PA. This lifetime achievement award is the highest honor a school librarian can receive in Pennsylvania. Barbara MacDonald participated in this ceremony by presenting Marg her award.

The First General Session was called to order by President, Louann Shrader. The Keynote Reflection, "Women Back to the Future" was delivered by Kate Campbell Stevenson. Her one-woman show brought to life historical women with 'can do' attitudes. She depicted Bessie Coleman, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Rachel Carson – women who exceeded the expectations of their times, showing the power while embracing the vision to change the world.

Committee reports were given. Linda O'Conner, the treasurer announced there will be no state dues increase this next year.

### *Alpha Xi in the House!*

Barb Rankin, Phyllis Jenny, Melody Hannegan, Barb MacDonald & Marg Foster enjoy lunch at the State Conference at the Nittany Lion Inn.



**A Distinct Honor.** Marg Foster receives her Album of Distinction Award from Alpha Xi President Barb MacDonald.



**Hats off!**  
Recognize anyone?

She also announced that she will be retiring at the end of next year. They will be seeking candidates to run for that office. The Rules Committee gave an update: reorganization of bylaws and constitution; struggling chapters will be merged; restructuring will take place; *Keystonian* will be disseminated through the website. Strategic Planning will focus on membership and communication. A new plan will be developed and approved next year. The Creative Arts Retreat, held in Whitehall, PA had 53 in attendance.

The Second General Session included a report from the scholarship committee and then presentations of 4 scholarships for doctoral degrees and 10 enrichment grants for travel.

The conference had 350 members in attendance. A variety of workshops were held. The Celebration of Life was held to honor all of the Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters who have passed away during the year.

Barb Rankin and Melody Hannegan both participated in the Alpha Alpha State Chorus, which provided music throughout the convention, with a beautiful musical interlude at the banquet.

Many thanks to Barb MacDonald, Phyllis Jenny, Barb Rankin, Melody Hannegan, and Marg Foster, members of Alpha Xi who attended the conference this year.

**Wed, Nov 28 G=Growth** - Monte Cello's, Route 8 at 4:45

"Travels: France, Greece & Turkey" by

Phyllis Jenny, Melody Hannegan and Terry Klein

**Tues, Feb 5 N=NEW + I =INITIATIVES** - Trinity Lutheran Church (Brandt School Rd.) catered by Park Café at 4:45

"Fashion Show" with Christopher & Banks of Cranberry

**Sat, Mar 9 T=Technology** - Echo Route 228 Cranberry at 10:45 a.m.

"Bi-chapter Meeting with Alpha Alpha State President"

**Mon, Apr 29 Y=Your Chapter Initiation** -Sewickley Speak Easy at 4:45 with music by the West Winds Quintet



## What is new from Alpha Alpha State Convention?

On June 8-10, 2012, Barb Rankin, Phyllis Jenny, Melody Hannegan, Marg Foster and Barb MacDonald represented the Alpha Xi Chapter at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College, PA.

Marg Foster received an Album of Distinction pin for PSLA (Pennsylvania State Library Association) for her work Library Media Programs.

Friday evening the birthday chapters and various other acts entertained us with singing, dancing and storytelling.

Once again, Alpha Xi was awarded Chapter Newsletter Recognition. Thank you, Faith.

We were celebrating 75 years as a state organization member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Each attendee received a copy of the history of the state from 1987-2012 (the last 25 years)

### Some highlights of Alpha Alpha State involving Alpha Xi Chapter

Barb Rankin served as State Corresponding Secretary 1993-1995  
Recording Secretary 1995-1997  
Received the State Achievement Award 2004

### The following people received an Album of Distinction Award

Marg Foster	2012
Susan Frantz	2000 and 2007
Aleta Lardin	2000
Barbara MacDonald	2009 and 2011
Linda Pepper	2008
Ellen Rodwick	2008
Barb Schmid	2008
Carol Scott	2010
Mary Shirey	2000
Shirley Stevens	2008
Karen Ulrich	2007

We did express our concern that the criteria for this award keeps changing as well as the need for attendance to receive this recognition.

### Yearbook Corrections

The February meeting is on **Tuesday February 5th, 2013** with Christopher & Banks.

The April meeting is April 29, **2013**

Paulette's email is [paulette.hemmings@yahoo.com](mailto:paulette.hemmings@yahoo.com)

We are sorry to report that these ladies have chosen NOT to renew their membership.

Mardy Byrnes

Joanne "Jody" Duessel

Ruth Ann McCraley

Jan Milarski

Katrine Watkins

We hope they will consider rejoining us in the future. The bylaws only require they pay the yearly dues. Please remove them from your yearbook.

### From the State President Louann Schrader

- Are you a writer who has been published? At the State Convention they would like to recognize these folks and give them a chance to sell their books.
- State website is:  
[www.alphaalphapa.com](http://www.alphaalphapa.com)
- If you have a workshop you would like to present, contact Kay Stuart (state website) by January 15.
- Nominate folks for Album of Distinction via of the State website.
- Are you interested in applying for a Scholarship or Enrichment Grant for travel, check out the state website and deadlines.

### State Scholarships received:

Mary Louise Ellena-Wygonick (listed as a member of Alpha Upsilon) 1992

Ladies, we need to have people apply for these awards. We will again share the criteria as we go through the year. In general, these apply to people pursuing graduate study and vary from 1,000 to 7,000 and are well worth exploring.

### State Enrichment Grants:

Dr. Nancy E. James 1998

These grants are for enrichment and personal or professional growth including travel and study tours. It can include presenting a paper at a workshop or convention. Since district monies are low, if you know in advance, then take advantage of this opportunity.

### Good News-

**The state does NOT need to increase their dues. It will remain at the \$17 per person for active members. The International should also remain at \$40 for active members. The North East Regional was a success that added \$7445 to our state treasury and that will offset the needs for a state dues increase.**

Workshops were offered to provide training materials for new chapter officers. There were also workshops designed for improving our chapters and us. The session attended by Barb MacDonald involved what we want our ideal chapter to look like and how to utilize our various personalities to create this perfect chapter.

We were encouraged to visit the international website to explore a power point "Pride in the Big Picture", new formats for our induction ceremonies and goto guides. There were revised guidelines for Presidents and Treasurers available and added Resources developed for Early Career Teachers. DKG is working on ways to have e-conversation and trying to organize a chapter in Japan.



## MEETING MINUTES

A 3:30 PM arrival time allowed members to explore the History Center's offerings. At 5:00 President Barbara MacDonald opened the business meeting. There were 19 members present.

Phyllis Jenny did the inspiration. In her best "teacher voice", she read remembrances from the newspaper of First Day of School experiences and advice that a grandfather wanted to give to his grandchildren.

Barb referred to the minutes from the May meeting that were printed in the September newsletter. There were no additions or corrections.

Peg Maser announced that she had sent two sympathy cards to members over the summer and shared information of a fundraiser to be held on 9/26 for Children's Hospital. Barb read a thank you from the Pittsburgh Opera for our donation in the spring and a note from Ruth Ann McCraley that she would not be renewing her membership.

Marg Foster gave the treasurer's report. The balance on hand is \$3313.68. She encouraged members to get their dues (\$82) in by mid-October. Marg will have copies of the budget at the next meeting.

Faith Jack asked that items for the newsletter be emailed to her new address (in the yearbook) [faithj40@gmail.com](mailto:faithj40@gmail.com). If possible, please submit in Times New Roman 10 pt.

Deb Stackrow presented Barb with a scrapbook from her first biennium. Deb has agreed to continue to take the Historical Records chair again.

Karen Klingman announced that her great-nephew is still collecting snap tops for the Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia. The funds are used to buy Jared boxes for patients who cannot go home. You can bring them to any meeting.

Paulette Hemmings discussed programming for the year ahead. The program committee consisted of Barb MacDonald, Phyllis Jenny, Melody Hannegan, Areta Kaligeras, Peg Maser, Karen Ulrich, Faith Jack, and Paulette Hemmings.

Barb gave us some information on the October meeting at Domenico's and noted that she will be looking for some class toys for the program. We are also to think of early-career educators to bring.

*"A Historical Review of the Strip District—It's Not What You Think!"*  
Heinz History Center Education Programs Coordinator Robert Stakeley gives a hands-on lesson using primary sources—Plat maps of the Strip District from 1898 and 1953.



*Few but proud.*  
Nineteen members enjoyed a private, after-hours look at the Heinz History Center on Smallman Street in the Strip District. A delightful luncheon was served trolley side.



October's service project is donations for Hieffer International. Ellen Rodwick was not present, so Barb gave some information about future projects. Check your newsletters for more information. We collected items for the Backpack Initiative at West View Elementary in September. If you are interested and missed the meeting, call Ellen Rodwick for information. She plans to deliver the goods at the end of September.

We need a Social chairperson and a World Fellowship chair. Phyllis Jenny offered suggestions about raffle baskets and making them more manageable for a person or small group to handle. Sign-up sheets were passed around for volunteers to sign up for the year's meetings.

Melody Hannegan talked about scholarships and grants available through Delta Kappa Gamma. Check the state Website. February 1 is the deadline to apply. For US Forum, Melody encouraged everyone to vote on Nov. 6 and to have your photo ID. Letter writing and phone calls to your Congressperson about education/funding is always welcome.

Barb read the names of seven members who are resigning for various reasons. Karen Klingman moved to accept these resignations, and Marg Foster seconded. Motion carried.

The Regional meeting is September 29 at Cambridge Springs. Several members will attend.

We shared joys and concerns. Karen Ulrich won the raffle basket.

Bob Stakeley then led the program on the history of the Strip District, which included hands-on use of primary sources (Plat Map books from 1898 and 1953).

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Ulrich, Recording Secretary

### Sept 29, 2012

Western State Fall Area Conference,  
Cambridge Springs

Details will be in the *Keystonean* for these conferences.

They are open to all members of Delta Kappa Gamma and not just officers.

### Mark Your Calendar Important Dates from Alpha Alpha State

### April 26-28, 2013

Purposeful Seminar, Best Western Country  
Cupboard Inn Lewisburg, PA

### June 14-16, 2012

Alpha Alpha State Convention, Nittany  
Lion Inn, State College, PA

### July 24-27, 2013

North East Regional, Holiday Inn by the  
Bay in Portland, Maine



October 2012

## Have You Heard?

### News from Alpha Xi Sisters

**JoHannah Brawdy**- "I'm pregnant! My husband, Jim, and I are expecting our first child on March 10, 2013!"

**Bobbie Clare**- "My first grandchild, Naomi, was born on May 8th in Portland, Oregon. My travels include trips to Portland, Oregon; Herkimer, NY to mine for Herkimer diamonds; NYC for US Open tennis and a Broadway show. I started classes at Pitt through OSHER (Senior Learning)".

**Darlene Farrell**- "In June I attended the National Cookie Cutter Collector Convention in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky. On July 22 I represented the Stitch and Pitch group at the Pittsburgh Pirate game and threw out the first pitch!"

**Melody Hannegan**- "I am going to be a grandmother in January! I worked at three workshops for Latin teachers in Las Vegas, Dallas and NYC over the summer, and I went on a cruise to Greece and Turkey in September with Terry Klein."

**Marg Foster**- "I represented PA at the American Library Association Conference in Anaheim, CA, this summer. I also attended the PSLA Leadership Summit in Hershey, PA this summer. In October my husband and I will be vacationing in Europe on a riverboat cruise down the Danube."

**Alice Smolkovich**- "During a year of therapy due to a fall last December, Karen Ulrich has been my regular helper, and I want to thank her publicly for the help and encouragement she has given me which enables me to garden a bit and to be a real friend. Thank you, Karen!"

**Debbie Stackrow**- "My husband and I enjoyed a wonderful Trans-Atlantic crossing, going to Spain, France, Azores, and Italy. We have a new 'twig' on the family tree, my 9-pound grandniece, Cora Beatrix."

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  
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Glenshaw, PA 15116-1015



New Alpha Xi website:

• <http://alphaxipadkg.weebly.com/>