



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

PENNSYLVANIA STATE

ALPHA BETA CHAPTER

Alpha Beta Bits

Volume XXXII NUMBER

April 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG) Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. On May 11, DKG will celebrate 93 years of making a difference for women educators. On May 22, Alpha Beta will celebrate 74 years of recognizing key women educators in our area and of making a difference for teachers, women, and children in the communities we serve.

The chapter exists thanks to each of you who continue to support the mission and values of DKG as well as the goals and focus of Alpha Beta. Did you know that the 48 members who currently comprise Alpha Beta have a combined total of 1,122 years of membership? Three (3) of our members have been members for 50 or more of those 74 years! Eleven (11) members have between 30 and 49 years of membership. We have 17 with 16 to 29 years of membership, 10 with six to 15 membership years, and seven with one to five years of membership. The diversity we have in the chapter keeps us relevant, vital, and vibrant. Diversity such as:

- member years;
- those active in the field and those retired;
- those involved in pre-K education, elementary/middle/high school, and those involved at the collegiate level; and,
- early career educators and those who are veterans in the classroom.

We are diverse in membership and we are diverse in the many projects which the chapter supports. Projects such as fleece blankets, weekend backpack programs, Schools for Africa-the Jabulani School, collections for Bedford County Children and Youth Services, funding our Grant-in-Aid program, funding our Teacher Enrichment Grants, helping our partner Girl Scout Troop earn STEM badges, Beyond the Classroom project for those teachers transitioning to something different, Talk About Teaching project for early career educators, Key Women Educator recognition – to name a few. Know that by engaging in these projects we honor our 12 Founders and our chapter charter members and we keep the mission and vision of DKG relevant in today's society.

We add to the legacy and history of DKG every day through our active involvement in the chapter and by maintaining our membership in DKG. Without you - your energy, your drive, your passion, and your ideas – none of what we do would happen. The difference we are making in the communities we serve would not happen. DKG and Alpha Beta need you and your

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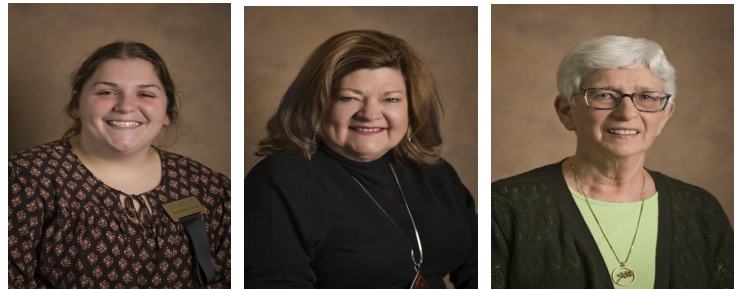
continued membership. If you have already paid your dues for 2022-2023, I thank you for your continued commitment to DKG. If you have yet to pay your dues, please get them to Pat Harrison by June 1.

I want to see all of you around to celebrate Alpha Beta's 75th anniversary in 2023. We are on an incredible journey and I am excited about you continuing it with me. Together we are definitely making magic happen through our membership, making wonderful connections, and creating endless possibilities. Moving forward with all of you is going to be very exciting.

I am inspired by, in awe of, and eternally grateful for each of you. - **Becky**

rolling all the coins (27 rolls of pennies, 3 rolls of nickels, 5 rolls of dimes, and 9 rolls of quarters) as well as counting all the bills. Appreciation goes to Treasurer, Pat Harrison, for getting all of that to the bank.

Samantha Fickes for blazing the trail on social media for us.



RAYS OF SUNSHINE



Melissa Moorhead and Lois Stoner for being selected to receive an Album of Distinction award at State Convention.

Everyone who participated in the collection for the Jabulani School. Our spring drive brought in \$528.50 and combined with our fall drive, we raised \$999.53 this year for the school. Special thanks to Jenn Harclerode, Trudy Snyder, Kris Walters, and Taryn Walters for sorting, counting, stacking, and



Pat Brenner who has been selected to receive an Enrichment Grant for a trip to Ireland.



Denelle Diehl whose photo "Waterfall Sunburst" was selected to appear on one of five notecards that will serve as State Convention banquet favors.

Denelle Diehl and Travis Leap for taking member photos that will be used in our pictorial

Convention registration goes through April 30. Late registration for double the cost begins on May 1. If you are staying at The Penn Stater, the sooner reservations are made, the better. (The block for Wednesday night sold out in mid-March! We were able to get the hotel to increase it, but there is no guarantee that if another block sells out we will have the same success.) The hotel reservation cut-off date is Monday, May 9.

Details on convention events are in the Spring Keystonean, on the state website under the 2022 State Convention tab, and in chapter update letters. Links to online registration are in the Keystonean, on the state website, and on the chapter website.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Are you headed to New Orleans (AKA the Big Easy) July 12-16 for the International Convention? Becky and Royce will for sure be there. Keep Becky posted if you plan on attending. Convention registration (through June 12; late registration begins June 13) and hotel (Sheraton) links are on the International website as well as our website. Details on the convention are in the March/April DKG News, the convention side of the DKG App, and the International website.

PROJECTS COMMITTEE



Our Committee is pleased to announce that since December 2019, 78 Fleece Blankets have been distributed to CYS, local nursing homes, assisted living facilities and the Renal Care Center. We are well on our way to reaching a goal of 100 Blankets to commemorate 100 years of DKG which was a project that was voted on during our March Alpha Beta meeting.

Several members continue to cut and knot blankets. Thank you to everyone who continues to donate materials to make the blankets and for those members who share their time to help knot the blankets. Everyone's time and efforts are greatly appreciated! - **Linda Clapper**

A NOTE FROM LINDA MCELROY JABULANI SCHOOL DONATIONS

Hello Dear Sisters,

My heart is again overwhelmed with the generosity of my Alpha Beta sisters. When I opened the letter from Pat, I was astounded when I saw the check. You had collected \$528.50 to be sent to Zimbabwe for the children at Jabulani School. Harrison was overwhelmed. He and Sefiwe think that you are all angels! You can be sure that the funds will be used wisely to assist the children who have always had very little, and the pandemic has made their situation even worse. The amazing thing is to know how their spirits, even in difficult times, are so positive and kind.

I should add a personal note since this note is coming to you from New York! You may know that Jim and I had been thinking about moving to a retirement community to be nearer our daughter and her family who live outside of Albany. The plan was to move in about 2 years. However, when a young family was eager to buy our home, it just seemed like we were to make the move sooner than we expected. So, until an independent home becomes available, we are staying in a 2-bedroom apartment on the community campus. Living in a much smaller space has been an interesting adjustment, but we are keeping our sense of humor and sense of adventure! Half of our belongings are in a long-term storage facility as we wait for a cottage-style home to become available. Jim and I often laugh as we try to remember what we packed in those boxes! Since moving here, we have met interesting, wonderful people. As a matter of fact, I think that they all have the DKG spirit of intelligence, kindness, and compassion. Evidently,

we have become so much a part of the community that Jim and I have been asked to be "greeters" for some new people who will be moving in soon. We were made to feel extremely welcome here, and we will do our best to do the same for other "newbies."

Thank you for creating the ability to Zoom with you at meetings. You are all dear to my heart – even if a bit far in distance.

With my love and deep gratitude,

- Linda McElroy

US. FORUM

Current pending legislation includes PA House Bill 2413. It was introduced on 3-16-22 and referred to the House Education Committee.

Summary of the pending bill--- a Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the PA Constitution to further provide for the maintenance and support of public education.

Highlight of the proposed amendment --- Education spending by the Commonwealth shall be allocated to individual students to attend the schools that best fit the students needs.

For questions or comments, contact your local representatives.
- Pat Brenner

GIRL SCOUTS and STEM



State President, Eileen Little, has a passion for STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) and STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) and has encouraged chapters to pursue projects related to STEM and STEAM. Our chapter is committed to helping the scouts in the Roaring Spring Girl Scout Troop 43009 earn badges in STEM through STEM-related work sessions.



One such session was held on February 27, 2022, when nine scouts participated in a presentation on the Women of STEM. Session #2 was held on March 20, 2022 and 10 scouts visited stations where they worked with a



green screen, created movies with Stikbots, created jewelry using binary codes, and participated in our chapter's Spaghetti Challenge. For the Challenge, teams had to create the tallest free-standing structure topped off with a marshmallow using only 20 sticks of spaghetti, a foot of masking tape, a foot of string, and their ingenuity. Team work, collaboration, communication, critical thinking, and logic helped each team complete the challenge successfully. The tallest structure built was 18".

CHAPTER PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

When ideas were requested for what we wanted to accomplish in 2020-2022, reinstating a pictorial directory was on the list. We are working on that and at the March 26 meeting, Denelle Diehl and Travis Leap graciously donated their time and talent to take pictures. If you weren't at the meeting, touch base with Becky at the May meeting to have your picture taken. Or, send to Becky a picture that you would like us to use in the pictorial directory.

AD HOC CHAPTER RULES COMMITTEE

Did you know that at this summer's International Convention members will vote on 120 proposed amendments to governing documents? Depending on the outcome of those votes, changes may need to be made to our Chapter Rules. If you are interested in serving on the Ad Hoc Chapter Rules Committee, please let Melissa know.

WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM COLLECTION



Thank you to everyone who donated food items to help our school students in our local area! Thank you to our members who helped deliver our donations to each school district. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by each district, each family and student who benefits from the backpack program!

-Jennifer Harclerode



Chapter Dues

Active \$89; Reserve \$32.

Make checks payable to Delta
Kappa Gamma

Deadline - June 1, 2022

Send to: Pat Harrison

Pat's address can be found in our chapter
directory

Thank you to those members who
have already paid their dues!

- Pat Harrison

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next newsletter
submission deadline
will be on **May 25, 2022.**

Please send articles and
photos to Tina by this date.

- Tina Smith-Gilbert



NEXT ALPHA BETA MEETING

**Date: Tuesday
May 10, 2022**

**Where: Chestnut Ridge Independent
Fellow Church/Fellowship Hall**

**Time: 5:45 PM Meeting Opening
6:00 PM Dinner
6:45 Business Meeting
7:30 Program: Beauty from Ashes by
Carol Deremer**

MEMORABLE DKG DATES

May 11, 1929
DKG is Founded

January 23, 1937
PA State Organization is Established

May 22, 1948
Alpha Beta Chapter is Chartered

We would like to wish the following Alpha Beta Sister a very "Happy Birthday". We hope you have a wonderful birthday and a wonderful year ahead that is full of good health, good fortune and many blessings.



Alpha Beta Bits
Composed, Edited and Printed
By:

Tina Smith-Gilbert
Royce Boyd Judy Conrad
Joan McGreevey Amy Snyder

May
Carol Deremer 8th