



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

PENNSYLVANIA STATE

ALPHA BETA CHAPTER

Alpha Beta Bits

Volume XXXI Number 2

September 2020

President's Message from Becky Johnen

In her book, Things I Wish I'd Known Sooner: Personal Discoveries of a Mother of Twelve, (Edwards, 1997), Jaroldeen Edwards relays a story of visiting her daughter. While taking her daughter to the garage to pick up a car, they take a detour along a mountain road. Edwards describes how they turned a corner and saw, from the top of the mountain, sloping for several acres across folds and valleys, rivers of daffodils in radiant bloom. She describes it as a profusion of color that blazed before them like a carpet and looking as if the sun tipped over and spilled gold down the mountainside. At the center of this scene, purple hyacinths were like a cascading waterfall. Coral colored tulips were sprinkled throughout.

Edwards wondered who had created such beauty, why, and how? A sign at the center of the property indicated that 'One woman, two hands, two feet, and very little brain, one at a time, started in 1958' had been responsible for that scene of beauty. Edwards relays that she was moved by what she had seen and by the realization that the woman who created the beautiful flower garden had changed the world one bulb at a time.

This story reminds me of how we in Alpha Beta and in DKG change things, often one project at a time, one idea at a time, one person at a time, or as those in our partner Girl Scout Troop say, "...one knot at a time." Little by little, the good works that we do add up to create magic and 'things of beauty' for someone.

Our fleece blanket project brings magical comfort to those who have been victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. Our Grant-in Aid program offers magical financial support to education majors in their last two years of collegiate study. Our Fellowship Connection and Remembrances Committees provide magical words of cheer to our members needing a little boost. Our support of the Jabulani School in Zimbabwe, Africa has created a place where magical educational experiences take place and

our continued support will nourish those students so they can create magic with their newfound knowledge. And, one of our newest projects, the Weekend Backpack Program, will add to the magic our local school districts are creating in providing food to those students who are in "food insecure" families.

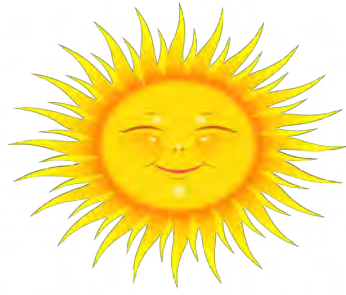
Each of these ventures connects us to one or more of the DKG purposes, one or more of the Pennsylvania State Organization initiatives, to the goals and objectives in our strategic action plan, and to my theme for the biennium "creating magical connections...endless new possibilities." The possibilities for the chapter that may result from all of our efforts, projects, and ventures is sure to grow the profession, change education in our community, and grow the chapter (in membership and scope). I remain grateful to all of you for your commitment, energy, and enthusiasm and I am excited about who we are, what we are doing, and the magic we will be creating in the communities we serve!

Energized by the magic,
Becky



Becky Johnen received her President's pin at the August meeting from Kris Walters. Kris also received her past President's pin at the meeting. It should be noted that Becky's pin was the pin that Barbara Allison was given when she was President of Alpha Beta.

Rays of Sunshine



To our Saxton sisters – Sonya Browell, Bev Brumbaugh, Linda Clapper, JoAnn Leighty for treating us to a marvelous lunch at the August meeting and for all the special touches that added to creating a magical meeting.

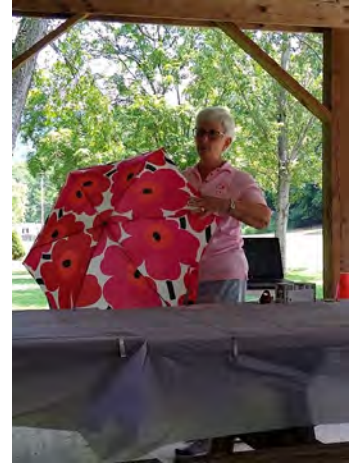


L to R: Sonya Browell, Bev Brumbaugh, JoAnn Leighty and Linda Clapper our hostess's at the picnic. Thank you for the delicious meal and beautiful setting for our August meeting.

To all of our active teachers who are providing meaningful teaching/learning moments in creative ways amid all the health and safety measures that are in place as a result of Covid-19.

To all the sisters who sent or shared cards, emails, prayers and words of wisdom with the sisters who returned to work in the classrooms we appreciate your support in these uncertain and most unusual times in education.

To Linda McElroy, Lois Stoner and Melissa Flynn for providing the Grant In Aid and Enrichment Grant presentations at the August Alpha Beta Meeting. It was wonderful hearing about their experiences and how they were able to make or have meaningful connections via their Grant- In- Aid scholarships. Thank you for sharing your stories with us.



L to R/Top to Bottom: Linda McElroy – Jabulani School in Zimbabwe, Africa; Lois Stoner – Iceland, Estonia and Finland Trip; and Melissa Flynn's trip to the Grand Canyon in Arizona and Justice Belles Picture from Facebook.



To Melissa Flynn for her work with the Justice Belles of Bedford County (a group with the purpose to educate and inform adults and children about the amazing struggle for the 1920 ratification of the 19th Amendment) and for her two-part series in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of women getting the vote in the country which appeared in the Bedford Gazette.



Weekend Backpack Program

At the October meeting we will be collecting food items for our local districts' Weekend Backpack Programs as well as collecting donations (Creating change with your pocket change) for the Jabulani School in Africa. Lists were emailed on August 17th and they detailed what each school is collecting for their particular program. If you need another list please contact Becky Johnen or me before the October meeting. This project will help children near and far who are in food insecure environments. How wonderful it will be to have the collection boxes overflowing!

- Jennifer Harclerode

DKG Items For Sale

There will be a collection of DKG logo items available at the October meeting. A donation will be collected for each item and the proceeds from the items will go to the Ways and Means fund. The items will include tote bags, pins, jewelry, etc. that have been acquired at past DKG conventions.



- Joanie McGreevey

Ways and Means Committee



It was announced at the August meeting that the Christmas basket raffle was a unanimous choice as a fundraiser on the Ways and Means Committee's survey or our members. Just as a reminder the items need to be of a value of \$5 or more and will be accepted at the Christmas tea for this annual tradition.

Thank you to all the chapter members who returned their survey to the Ways and Means Committee. The committee is going to use the survey to guide them in the future.

- Lois Stoner and Kris Walter; Co -Chairs

State Convention Basket



Hopefully life will return to some semblance of normal in the coming year. With this as a goal for all of us including DKG, let us look forward to the 2021 PA State Convention next year. Our chapter's theme for the basket that we will donate for the raffle will remain "Snow Day". Donations will be accepted at the October meeting and all subsequent chapter meetings. Contributions from this past year are residing in a snow-free location.

- Lois Stoner and Kris Walters

Benefits of DKG Membership

In our last edition of the newsletter, this column highlighted the discount programs of The Good Shop and AmazonSmile. This month let's look at two of the four available benefits related to insurance.

Educators work hard, yet one accusation can halt a career and put a person's reputation at risk. Protect yourself with a uniquely designed professional liability policy that meets the specific needs of an educator. AIM and DKG have developed a policy that specifically meets those needs for only \$55 a year.

ID Theft Assist is the most comprehensive identity recovery service on the market. With one phone call, an identity theft victim can save hours of time by letting representatives use their knowledge and experience to act as the subscriber's advocate. The buying power of DKG allows the ID Theft Assist program to offer discounted rates not available to the general public. This protection is less than \$8 a month.

For more details visit the dkg.org site.

World Fellowship



Zhanar; our World Fellowship student at Lehigh has a birthday coming up on **October 17th**. (If you need her address please contact Lois Stoner.)



The U.S. Forum Steering Committee Invites you to join Our Webinar- Tuesday, September 29, 2020 7pm EDT



Roni Embry, IN



Pat Bennett-Forman, WA



Carrie Frye, FL



Dr. Kathy Kinley, CA

Round table discussion:
Advocacy that works!

Best Practices for Successful Legislative Programs

Moderated by Daphne Cagle, CA

Featuring:

Roni Embry, IN

Carrie Frye, FL

Pat Bennett-Forman, WA

Dr. Kathy Kinley, CA

Registration Link Available

The DKG US Forum Steering Committee Invites You to Join Them:

When: **Sep 29, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time** (US and Canada) 6pm Central Time, 5pm Mountain time, and 4pm Pacific Time

Topic: DKG US Forum Webinar: Advocacy Works! Successful Legislative Programs

Please Register in advance for this webinar by 9.25.2020:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_N11fb-pOT4GKmlrvsj2O4g

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Fine Arts Gallery Submissions

Remember that the deadline to submit work to the Arts & Humanities Jury is **September 15, 2020**. Detailed information was sent to you on **August 29th**.

In a nutshell: Categories for submission include:

- Literary efforts: Original essay, play-writing, poetry, short story
- Performance art: Dance, dramatics, film-making, music original composition, oratory
- Two-dimensional art: Acrylic, charcoal, color pencil, graphite, oil, pastel, pen and ink, print-making, watercolor
- Three-dimensional art: Basketry, ceramics, jewelry, pottery, quilts, sculpture, textiles, wood-carvings, installation, mixed media 3D
- Photography: Black and white, color
- Mixed media

Descriptions of each category are available on the DKG website. After signing in, click on the APPLY/SUBMIT tab and once in that section, click on the ART GALLERY SUBMISSIONS area and you will find submissions procedures, rubrics for each category, and the submission form. The Spring Gallery date is **February 15, 2021** if you need more time.

I hope you will strongly consider showcasing your talent!!! If you have any questions, let me know.

Watching for the "Magic",
– *Becky Johnen*

Projects Committee

Our Projects Committee has purchased additional fleece and kits to make child and teen-sized fleece blankets. The Roaring Spring Girl Scouts will be knotting blankets when they meet. Some members have volunteered to work on some blankets. Please contact Beverly Brumbaugh or Linda Clapper if you would like to help with this activity. Thank you for continued support of the fleece blanket projects.



- *Linda Clapper*

CHAPTER LIST UPDATE

I have updated our chapter list and you will find the updates on an attachment to this email. If you could please print off a copy and put it somewhere for easy access that would be greatly appreciated. If you need a copy printed for you please let me know or let Becky know and one will be provided for you. If you have any problems opening the attachment please let us know.

- *Arlene Fuller*

NEWSLETTER- COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

New rules for the posting of personal information in newsletters or websites were discussed at the August meeting. You will see some updates on our newsletter starting with this month. We will be not be able to post any addresses, phone numbers or email addresses directly on this newsletter or any future newsletters.

Next newsletter deadline is **November 7, 2020** for articles of submission. - *Tina Smith-Gilbert*

State Convention 2021

Dr Lyn Schmid, Royce Boyd and Eileen are the Ad Hoc Committee members for State Convention 2021. As many of you are aware our state convention can not be held at the Nittany Lion Inn due to being used as a dormitory for Penn State University. The Ad Hoc Committee gathered information from nine different venues. Then narrowed the field to five and they now have two finalists. Site visits are planned for September and to discuss contracts. Hopefully by October 1st a venue will be selected and a contract signed. We will keep you posted as we know more so you can plan accordingly to attend the 2021 State Convention.

As we look forward to State Convention 2021, all the docs for the various awards have been updated and are on our PA State website. You can start working on these now, so the deadlines won't catch you at the last minute. Those awards and deadlines are listed on our chapter website.

- *Becky Johnen*

Alpha Beta Upcoming Birthday

We would like to wish the following Alpha Beta Sisters are very happy birthday. We hope you have a wonderful birthday!

September

5th: Candace Claar
7th: Wanda Clark
21st: Emily Deremer

October

25th: Linda McElroy

November

9th: Angela Gates
13th: Arlene Fuller
17th: Jennifer Harclerode
22nd: Ellen Diehl
28th: Trudy Snyder



Upcoming Dates /Next Meeting

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Chestnut Ridge Independent Fellowship
Church/Fellowship Hall

6:00 PM: Business Meeting

6:45 PM: Program by Schellsburg author
Shirley Stuby

7:30 PM: Dessert and
Fellowship



Alpha Beta Bits
Composed, Edited and Printed
By
Tina Smith-Gilbert, Judy Conrad, Royce Boyd
and Joan McGreevey



