



Alpha Beta Bits

Memorable DKG Dates

May 11, 1929

DKG Founded

January 23, 1937

PA State Organization Established

May 22, 1948

Alpha Beta Chapter Chartered



NEXT NEWSLETTER
SUBMISSION DEADLINE

May 23, 2023

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Tina Smith-Gilbert

President's Message

The theme for my biennium, "Creating magical moments... endless new possibilities," was vividly in action at our Books and Bargains Yard Sale on April 1. I saw magical moments in the:

- support from the community with the steady stream of visitors to the sale;
- smile of a little girl showing off an art kit that her parents were purchasing for her;
- opportunity to share information on DKG and what Alpha Beta does to help the communities it serves;
- camaraderie among members, especially in getting to know each other better;
- team effort demonstrated not only that day in working the yard sale, the kitchen, the bake sale, and the efficient cleanup operation but in everything that went into getting ready for the day.

These magical moments have opened the door to endless new possibilities in the visibility of our chapter within the community, in what we will be able to do with our many community-focused projects, and in how we proceed to



Tina Smith-Gilbert, Sandi Hoenstine and Carol Fritz fill the baked goods table at the Books and Bargains sale.

President's Message continued—

advance the mission, vision, and purposes of DKG in the coming years.

Alpha Beta has been creating magical moments for 75 years through what we do at our meetings, through the fellowship we share with each other, and through our many projects. This magic is created by the sharing of your time, energy, and talents. Leo Buscaglia said, "There are scores of people waiting for someone just like us to come along; people who will appreciate our compassion, our encouragement, who will need our unique talents. Someone who will live a happier life merely because we took the time to share what we had to give."

Sharing what we have is a hallmark of Alpha Beta. With your active involvement in the chapter and your membership in DKG; with your energy, your drive, your passion, and your ideas we will continue to make a difference for women, children, and educators in the communities we serve. We will continue to create magical moments leading to endless new possibilities. DKG and Alpha Beta need you and your continued membership. If you have already paid your dues for 2023-2024, 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.

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. Together we keep us vital, relevant, and sustainable. Moving forward with all of you is going to be very exciting and I am so looking forward to year 76 and what we TOGETHER will be able to accomplish.

I am inspired by, in awe of, and eternally grateful for each of you and all the magic you create.

—Becky

US FORUM

Pat Brenner

The US Forum is holding a session in Detroit on July 14, 2023, to discuss how to incorporate mental wellness in local DKG chapters, states, and the classroom.

This meeting is in response to the Mental Health Resolution passed at the International Convention. During the recently conducted DKG member survey, mental health was listed as a priority issue that needs to be addressed. Stay tuned for updates as more information is received.

MUSIC BINGO ANYONE?

On Saturday, May 13, Beta Epsilon is holding a music bingo to fundraise for their scholarship fund. The event begins at 5 PM with dinner followed by the bingo at 6 PM. (Beta Epsilon president, Veronica Sell, donated books to our fundraiser and was there with family members to support our event; let's return the favor and help them out.) I know Royce will be there and in addition to me, chapter members (along with husband George). I have four more tickets to give to members wanting to participate in this fun event. Contact me if interested.

Becky



And the Results Are in....

Lois Stoner & Kris Walters
Ways and Means Committee Co-Chairs

During last June's chapter planning meeting, the Ways and Means Committee was tasked with planning a major fundraising project so that more grants could be awarded to deserving local teachers. As summer turned to fall, the plans for a book and yard sale developed. The chapter members seemed to agree that this would be an adventure, but if everyone supported the endeavor, it could be accomplished.

Fast forward to March. After Zoom meetings, numerous emails, and reminders to members, the *Books and Bargains* sale was finally coming together. A local Boy Scout troop was willing to help with setup. Chapter members brought car loads of items to our chapter meeting. More items were dropped off at Becky's, Royce's and my house and inquiries sparked by the publicity on the radio, newspaper and social media were answered.

When this project was suggested, it was beyond our imaginations that the volume of



Pat Harrison and Candace Claar checkout customers at the Books and Bargain Sale



Kris Olsen collects money at the grab bag table.

Judy Conrad, Maria Scott-Bollman, Bev Brumbaugh and Sonya Browell keep the kitchen running.



books and yard sale items would be so great! Thanks to your generosity of used books and donated items for the sale, as well as food items and other baked goods, it turned into a huge success.

The money earned from the sale of books and yard sale items was \$1227.70. The sale of food items and grab bags totaled \$982.55. All together this equals \$2210.25!! This is just awesome! Never in our wildest dreams did we think we could sell enough 50 cent and \$1 items to come close to this total.

Kudos to all chapter members for all your hard work and donations. What an amazing group of dedicated women!

Thank you everyone whether you donated books or yard sale items, helped physically pricing items, setting up or tearing down, baked items, cooked food, did publicity, or the myriad other jobs that made this such a success, all the way to mopping our way out the door and turning off the lights. Hopefully, the leftover items find a new life at fundraisers for Arbutus Manor in Johnstown. Way to go Alpha Beta members!!

A Moment in History

Pat Harrison
Historical Records Chairperson

Alpha Beta Chapter was organized by Blanche Foster, President, Alpha Alpha State 1946 – 48. The ceremony was conducted in Parlor A at the Bedford Springs Hotel on May 22, 1948. The initiation was conducted by Blanche Foster, State President, assisted by Dorothy Felton, Belle Oberheim, and Martha Stailey, who had been initiated on May 1, 1948, by Alpha chapter at the State Convention in Hershey. At the organization meeting following the initiation, Rosalind Mowry was elected president.

The Charter Members of Alpha Beta were: Ruth Brice, Rosalind Mowry, Irma C. Diehl, Grace E. Rankin, Martha N. Stailey, Stella M. Ritchey, Dorothy G. Felton, Dorothy P. Giles, Sara B. Gloor, Evelyn D. Miller, Sara G. Palmer, Belle Isle Oberheim, Ruth C. Rorar, Madolyn B. Taylor, and Mabel Holderbaum. Since the group was small, many meetings were held in members’ homes.

Our connection to Alpha Delta, Somerset, developed early. The first joint venture was a dessert meeting at Ye Olde Inn, Jennerstown, followed by attendance at a play at the Mountain Play House. The second venture was a joint meeting held October 20, 1948 at the New Hoffman Hotel in Bedford. It was the was a dinner meeting with the ladies from Somerset as guests of Alpha Beta.

(Information gleaned from Reflections by Dorothy Felton and Martha Stailey, and the chapter minutes)

JOINT MEETING WITH ALPHA DELTA

Every other year, we hold a joint meeting with our Alpha Delta sisters, rotating the meeting site. This is our year to meet in Somerset. Our May meeting will be held at the Somerset Country Club on Saturday, May 6. Our meeting notice contains all the details. If you want to attend and want to carpool, check that option when you return your reservation.



Dues Payment Due

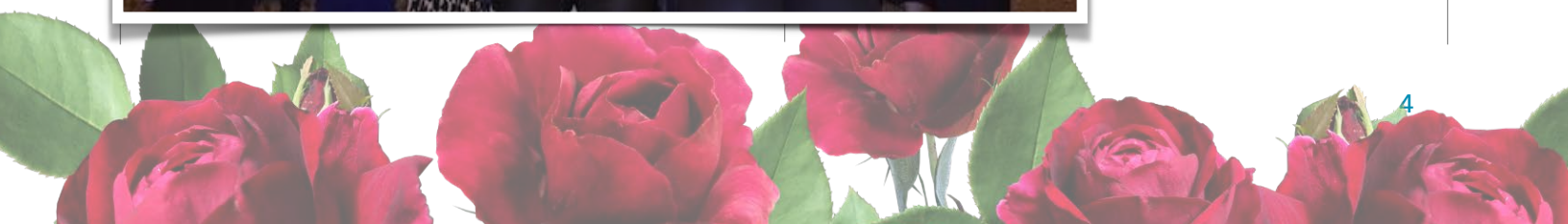
Pat Harrison
Treasurer

Your payment of dues for the 2023-2024 year is due by June 1. The dues remain the same as last year: \$89 for active members and \$32 for reserve members. These amounts include your International, State, and Chapter dues.

Please make your check payable to “Delta Kappa Gamma Society International” and send the check ASAP to the treasurer, Pat Harrison. You can find her address in the chapter directory.



Alpha Beta Past Chapter Presidents are recognized at Alpha Beta’s 75th Birthday Day Celebration.





Laura Vent is inducted as a new Alpha Beta member at the March meeting as current members participated in the recommitment ceremony.

PROUD OF OUR



COMMENDABLE: **Pat Brenner** will receive the Album of Distinction award at the State Convention for her work in getting Dr. Annie Webb Blanton listed in the National Women’s History Museum holdings.

CONGRATULATIONS: **Ways and Means Committee Members** (Lois Stoner, Kris Walters, Yvonne Bowser, Royce Boyd, Linda Clapper, Pat Harrison), the **Kitchen Crew members** (Pat Brenner, Sonya Browell, Bev Brumbaugh, Judy Conrad, Laurie Criswell, Becky Johnen, Melissa Moorhead, Kris Olsen, Maria Scott-Bollman, Tina Smith-Gilbert), **event workers** (Candace Claar, Susan Clark, Linda Fisher, Carol Fritz, Arlene Fuller, Jen Harclerode, Sandi Hoenstine, Karen Musselman) and everyone who helped bake, price items and promote the extremely successful Books and Bargains Yard Sale fundraiser.

MEMBERS MATTER

-Jennifer Harclerode

Remember to be on the lookout for someone with whom you work or have worked who would be a great fit for our chapter as well as benefit from membership in DKG. Send names to Jennifer Harclerode.

GRATEFUL: All committee chairs and members for keeping the chapter running smoothly through their hard work and dedication.

ACCOLADES: Members of the **Ad Hoc 75th Birthday Celebration Committee** (Tina Smith-Gilbert, Pat Brenner, Candace Claar, Linda Clapper, Jenn Harclerode, Joan McGreevey, Melissa Moorhead, Maria Scott-Bollman) for the centerpieces, favors, birthday cards and all that went into making our March meeting birthday celebration so special.

GENEROUS: Our members who generously donated to the Jabulani School, to the Weekend Backpack Program food collection and to the Mennonite Central Committee’s School Kits and Relief Kits.

ARTISTIC: **Arlene Fuller** and **Angie Gates** will each have their works of art displayed in the art gallery at State Convention.



State Convention

Details on the State Convention, June 21-23, at the Wyndham Resort and Convention Center, Lancaster, PA are on the state website and in the Spring edition of the *Keystonian*. Early registration for convention closes on April 30. At the March meeting, members responded to a survey on convention attendance. Becky will be following up with all those who plan on attending. If you weren't at the meeting but plan on attending, please contact Becky.

Two very special events are happening at this convention. Our 75th birthday will be recognized at the Celebration Luncheon on Thursday, June 22. There are a few members traveling to Lancaster just for this event. If that is something that interests you, let Becky know.

The second special event will be the installation of Royce Boyd as president of the PA State Organization at the banquet Thursday evening! Having as many members there as possible to provide support would be wonderful.

INTERNATIONAL HIRES AN EXTERNAL CONSULTANT

DKG, like most organizations today, faces challenges with recruiting and retaining members. To help deal with these challenges, Avenue M has been hired by International to help evaluate member needs and provide insight into what we need to do differently to attract, engage, and retain members. A random sample of members will be contacted by Avenue M. If you happen to receive a phone call or be asked to participate in a survey, I hope you take the opportunity to share your thoughts and feelings.

A Purposeful Seminar Invitation

Royce Boyd

Ladies, please join me for a day of professional and personal growth in Lancaster County at this year's Purposeful Seminar. I have planned a day of learning, shopping and service on June 20th and 21st to benefit Mennonite Central Committee prior to the convention.

We will start with some learning on Tuesday evening then onto shopping Wednesday morning at Ten Thousand Villages and Kitchen Kettle Village, Intercourse, PA. In the afternoon, we will be off to a service project to benefit women and children around the globe. Don't worry, we will be back in time to enjoy all of the convention events.

Registration is only \$50 which includes snacks Tuesday night and breakfast Wednesday morning. You will find the registration form in the most recent *Keystonian* and it is due by May 15th. However, the seminar is only open to the first fifty members and guests. There are currently 30 registered. Registration comes to me via US mail.

Think field trip for adults!!

Dr. Annie Webb Blanton (played by Cindy Reynolds) connects DKG's roots with Alpha Beta's chapter history at Alpha Beta's 75th Birthday celebration.



Project Committee News

Linda Clapper

Thank you to everyone who returned their rainy day bags or brought their donation for the Jabulani School at our March meeting. A check for the amount of \$528.00 has been forwarded to Linda McElroy! She has sent a message that our donation will be providing nutritious meals to the students and much needed supplies for the School.

Many of our members returned fleece blankets that they had cut and knotted or knotted since our December meeting. When we delivered the first 8 blankets to Your Safe Haven in Bedford, we didn't realize how "Special" this Project would become! Since that time, we have distributed 97 blankets!

Now we are moving forward to our next venture of putting together personal care items and a fleece blanket for students in the School Districts of our Chapter area. Students who have had a fire in their home or a "catastrophic" event will be given these items.

Members of Alpha Beta raise their candles as they recommit to the vision, mission and purpose of Delta Kappa Gamma during the 75th Birthday Celebration at The Bistro in Martinsburg, PA.



Teacher Enrichment Grant Recipients

Teacher Enrichment Grant recipient Tracey Williams of Tussey Mountain Elementary (above) shares student artwork in figure drawing. Ms. Williams purchased figure models with her Teacher Enrichment Grant.



Ali Imler of Bedford High School (left) shared a mosaic tray created by her students with the mosaic tools purchased with her Teacher Enrichment Grant.

STAY CONNECTED

On our chapter website (alphabetadkg.weebly.com).

Watch for new pictures and updated project information and check out the weekly inspirational quote (usually posts on Sunday).

On the state website (dkgpa.weebly.com).

Look for the latest posting of Alpha Beta pictures in the Chapters section/Chapter news.

On our Facebook page (DKG Alpha Beta Chapter of PA).

