



# Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Pennsylvania State | Alpha Beta Chapter

## 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

September 14, 2022

Email: Amy Snyder

### Newsletter Staff:

Amy Snyder, Editor

Royce Boyd

Judy Conrad

Joan McGreevey

Tina Smith-Gilbert

### President's Message

As we get ready for our 2022-2023 DKG year, I plan to continue the theme I used during my first biennium: *Making magical connections...endless new possibilities*. Possibilities – the chance that somethings may happen. Some of the possibilities, the things I would like to see happen include: creating community connections that help with our name recognition and lead to us getting new members; having a successful community fundraiser that provides additional funds for our Grant-in-Aid and our Teacher Enrichment Grants; reaching many early career educators with our Talk About Teaching sessions; helping soon-to-be-retired educators with their plans for the next phase of their life journey; being responsive to local school districts' needs so we make a difference for education in the communities we serve; being seen as a resource for schools and other agencies helping women, children, and education; having everyone in the chapter continue to share their talents; and, having fun and getting to know each other better.

Thinking about these possibilities, I flashed on mountain men and the “possibles bags” that they each carried. Mountain men were trappers and explorers who lived in the wilderness. They were most common in the North American Rocky Mountains from about 1810 through the 1880s. Many mountain men were employed by Fur Trading companies to trap beaver and other animals for their fur (think Jim Bridger and Kit Carson). When trapping was no longer lucrative mountain men served as guides for the pioneers making their way west.

Considering the life of mountain men, it was necessary that critical items be carried at all times, so a staple of a mountain man became the “possibles bag.” The “possibles bag” contained everything that could possibly be needed for the



## 75 YEARS AND GOING STRONG

On May 22, 2023 our chapter turns 75! To commemorate our diamond jubilee, an ad hoc committee has been established to help plan something special for the chapter.

They will update our chapter's history, prepare a bio of the chapter that will be used at the 2023 Convention Celebration Luncheon, and come up with props that we'll use at the Celebration Luncheon.

Tina Smith-Gilbert will chair this committee. Serving with her will be Candace Claar, Linda Clapper, Jenn Harclerode, Pat Brenner, Joan McGreevey, and Pat Harrison as the historical records resource. If you are interested in serving, contact Becky.

### *President's Message continued*

day: black powder, powder measurer, flint and steel, lead balls, knives, and some personal items. Other items might include tools for trap repair, tobacco, sugar, and items to trade with indigenous people. While several items were common to all "possibles bags," every bag had its own unique contents that reflected the character of its owner.

Just as the mountain men needed to carry with them at all times everything they would need for the day, so too should we carry with us things we need to help us make magical connections which lead

to endless new possibilities. And, just as several items were common to all mountain men "possibles bags," so too should our "chapter "possibles bags" contain items necessary for our success. What items should be in our "possibles bags?" In mine, I would have: persistence, enthusiasm, positive mental attitude, sense of humor, a new style of thinking, vision, goals, and patience.

Would your chapter "possibles bag" contain all or most of these? What else might you put in yours? Think about it.

At our August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting we will create our chapter "possibles bag." With your items and mine I think we could create a dynamic chapter "possibles bag" that will help us move forward in our efforts to lead women educators and impact education locally and worldwide.

Excited by the possibilities that your magical touch will create,

—Becky

*Making magical  
connections...endless  
new possibilities.*









## Fellowship Connection

**Patty Valentine**

If you learn that one of our sisters is ill, hospitalized, had a death in her family, needs cheer or congratulations, please contact your area assistant (listed below), who will contact me, Patty Valentine. If I am not at home, area assistants may leave a message. If needed, to get the message out as soon as possible via email, area assistants may contact Sonya Browell themselves.

Please refer to the Alpha Beta Directory for phone numbers.

Fellowship Connection	Patty Valentine
Everett/Bedford	Arlene Fuller
Chestnut Ridge	Susan Clark
Claysburg/Roaring Spring	Kristin Hall
Saxton	Linda Clapper
Johnstown/Other	Becky Johnen

## Alpha Beta Induction



*Photo Credit: Karen Musselman*

On June 23, 2022, Samantha Fickes was inducted into the Alpha Beta chapter at the Spring House Estates in Everett, PA. Pictured above are (left to right) Kris Walters, Kristen Hall, Samantha Fickes, Becky Johnen, Susan Clark, Laurie Criswell, and Candace Claar.

## Fill the 2023 Convention Basket

**Bev Brumbaugh**

The theme for the 2023 Convention Basket will be "Beach Fun". The two large items that are needed are a beach chair and a LARGE beach bag.

Items will be needed to fill this bag. Some suggestions are beach towel, beach hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, books, beach games, and inflatable raft. Take advantage of end of summer sales and see what interesting items you can find! You can begin bringing your items to the October meeting.



## Educational Excellence Spotlight

### **Educational Excellence Committee**

Tina Smith-Gilbert was awarded the Nancy Grove Visionary Award at state convention in June Of 2022. The \$500.00 award was granted to help fund two early literacy projects in Tina's PreK Counts classroom for



the 2022-2023 school year. The first project will help purchase a set of 9 books for each student in her classroom. One book will be given each month the child

attends school and each book selections will be based on each individual child's likes and interests. Each book will include a sticker letting the family know that the book purchase was funded by Pennsylvania State and was made possible by the Nancy Grove Visionary Award. Parents will be offered a parental involvement opportunity where they will be trained on the importance of reading to their children and exposing them to ways to enhance the reading experiences with their children,

Second, the Novel Effect App was also purchased for use in the classroom. The app will be used to enhance engagement of the preschool students during circle time oral reading activities in the classroom. The application is designed to follow along with the person reading and adds interactive music

and sound effects to the story. Many stories are available on the site and those stories cover a large age range and offer many genres. The application helps to create magical moments when you read aloud to your child/children.

Just an FYI for the good of the group ... If you download the free mobile app on the App Store or Google Play you can enjoy 5 read-a-louds each month and no subscription is required. The website also offers teachers a discounted rate for a year's subscription to the service.

### **Rosebud Award Jennifer Harclerode**

#### **Educational Excellence Committee**

The purpose of the Pennsylvania State Organization Rosebud Recognition is to recognize and honor a new member who has given outstanding service to her chapter and Pennsylvania State Organization activities and has promoted the purposes and the policies of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The award is given on even years of state convention.

Alpha Beta thanks Jenn for her service to our chapter. Jenn served as our co hospitality chair over the last two years and she helped coordinate the backpack food drives. Jenn helps promote fun and fellowship among our sisters at each meeting. Jenn will also be serving as our new membership chair during our next biennium.

Jenn you are so well deserving of the Rosebud Award! Congratulations!



## Project News Committee

**Linda Clapper**

At our August meeting, we plan to fill book bags for elementary and middle school/high school students. Please refer to the list below for suggested items to be donated to fill the backpacks.

**NOTE:** The Book Bags will be provided by the Bedford County Children & Youth Services.

If you have any questions, please email Linda Clapper by referring to the DKG Directory for Linda's email address.

Thanks for your help with this Project!



- No. 2 pencils
- 1 subject spiral notebooks
- 3 subject spiral notebooks
- 2 pocket folders
- Plastic pouch pencil cases
- Erasers
- Highlighters
- Mechanical pencils
- Retractable pens
- Post-it notes
- Calculators
- Earbuds (from Walmart & Dollar Tree)

*Photo Credit: Karen Musselman*

## State Committee Openings

For those of you looking to do work beyond the chapter, there are two state committees that need new members. The State Finance Committee is looking for two (2) new members and the State Nominations Committee is looking for three (3) new members. If you are interested in serving on either of these committees, please fill out an application on the State website.

On the sites homepage, click on the <home> button (upper left corner). Scroll down to <Nomination for State Office/Committee> and click on that. Near the bottom of that page is a fillable PDF <nomination form>. **Complete that form and email it to Barbara Gasperini by October 10, 2022.** Contact Becky for Barbara's email address.

## Executive Board Named

The installation ceremony of the Executive Board was held on June 23, 2022 at the Spring House Estates for the 2022-24 biennium. The 2015-17 Pennsylvania State Organization President, Tracey Dusch, conducted the ceremony.

The members of the 2022-24 Executive Board (pictured below) are Becky Johnen, President; Kris Walters, immediate past president; Tina Smith-Gilbert, first vice president; Melissa Moorhead, parliamentarian; Jennifer Harclerode, second vice president; Sonya Browell, recording secretary; and Pat Harrison, treasurer.



## US Forum

Pat Brenner

A US Forum meeting will be held at the 2022 International Convention in New Orleans on Saturday July 16th. A power-point from July 5, 2022 "Mental Health Resolution" will be presented as a proposed Mental Health Resolution.

The Washington State Organization developed the resolution "On Recognizing Mental Health Issues for Educational Staff and Promoting Support Services". The resolutions include promoting

destigmatization of mental illness through dissemination of information on successful school-based treatment programs, supports, and other resources. Also it is resolved that Delta Kappa Gamma Society International inform members of current legislation related to mental health services for educators so that they may take appropriate actions. It is resolved that Delta Kappa Gamma Society International engage in a wide range of activities that demonstrate emotional support for educators.

### REMINDER ABOUT THE FALL *KEYSTONIAN*

- Will be an electronic version and sent to your email
- If you want to receive a paper copy of the *Keystonian* you need to go on the PA website and click on the red button that says, *Keystonian* Mailing Form. Complete this form by August 1, 2022.

Note, for our members to whom we mail our chapter correspondence, the chapter has taken care of completing the *Keystonian* Mailing Form for you. Others who would like to continue to receive the paper copy but need help with completing the mailing form, contact Becky.



#### July Birthdays

Tina Smith-Gilbert, July 7  
Maria Scott-Bollamn, July 11  
Becky Johnen, July 20

#### August Birthdays

Sonya Browell, August 3  
Sandra Hoenstine, August 3  
Nancy Rockey, August 10  
Jane Brown, August 14  
Susan Clark, August 16  
Melissa Moorehead, August 17  
Samantha Fickes, August 20  
Kristine Olsen, August 24  
Susan Trimeloni, August 28

### Stay Connected

On our chapter website ([alphabetadkg.weebly.com](http://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](http://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).



#### September Birthdays

Candace Claar, September 5  
Wanda Clark, September 7  
Pat Marshall, September 11  
Emily Deremer, September 21