



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

PENNSYLVANIA STATE

ALPHA BETA CHAPTER

Alpha Beta Bits

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May 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dr. Annie Webb Blanton, member of the faculty of the University of Texas and a former state superintendent of public instruction in Texas,

conceived the idea of an organization for women educators. On May 11, 1929, she and 11 other educators from Texas organized the Delta Kappa



Gamma Society International (DKG) at the Faculty Women's Club at the University of Texas in Austin, Texas.

On January 23, 1937, Alpha Alpha State (now known as the Pennsylvania State Organization) was formed. This paved the way for chapters in the state and on May 22, 1948 the Alpha Beta Chapter was constituted with 15 charter members in Parlor A of the Bedford Springs Hotel.



This year, Alpha Beta celebrates its 73rd birthday! The Chapter exists thanks to each of you. You are part of the Chapter because someone noticed your work. Someone noticed your standards. Someone believed in your potential. Someone sought your

association. Someone honored you! Through your membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, you help make a significant impact on education. By engaging in activities and projects that support the Society's Seven Purposes (purposes that reflect the original purposes the Society emphasized on its inception: gender equity, school legislation, excellence in education, good teaching conditions, networking, and financial help for women preparing to teach), we honor our 12 Founders and we keep the mission and vision of Delta Kappa Gamma vital in today's society.

DKG history is being written every day. We can add our legacy to this history by continuing to make a difference for education and for women and children in the communities we serve. We add to the legacy of DKG through our activism on issues educators face today, and our activism needs to keep pace with that of the Founders. We do all of this by maintaining our membership in DKG so that the activities and the projects of our Chapter can continue to make a difference, adding to the rich history and wonderful legacy of this Society. Take pride in your continuing membership.

If you have already paid your dues for 2021-2022, I thank you for your commitment to DKG and all for which it stands. If you have yet to pay your dues, please get them to Pat Harrison by June 1. Remember, as a member, you are a valued part of the Delta Kappa Gamma heritage.

Continue this wonderful journey with me as I am looking forward to you making magic happen through your membership, - **Becky**

RAYS OF SUNSHINE



CONGRATULATIONS to Candace Claar who received one of the nine International Scholarships awarded this year!



Candace Claar

CONGRATULATIONS to Melissa Moorhead on being named South Central DAR Outstanding Regent!

Belated **CONGRATULATIONS** to Maria Scott-Bollman on receiving her doctoral degree!



Maria Scott- Bollman

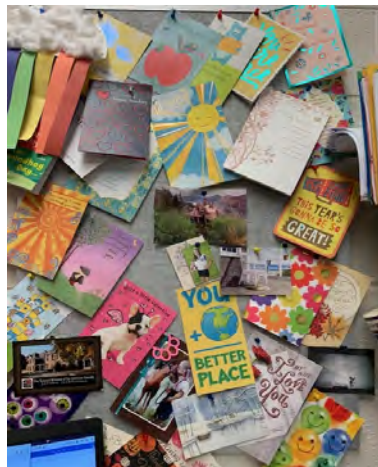
HEARTFELT GRATITUDE for Communications Chairperson, Karen Musselman, for outstanding PR coverage of the chapter!

HEARTFELT GRATITUDE to each member of Alpha Beta who donated food items to the Weekend Backpack program in March. Thank you for the members who volunteered to deliver the food items to each individual local school! Many hands make light work - Thanks Kris Walters, Judy Conrad, Lois Stoner, Jennifer Harclerode and Sonya Browell.

HEARTFELT GRATITUDE to Jennifer Harclerode for leading the committee for the Weekend Backpack. Jennifer has countless hours in her local school district spearheading her school's backpack program and has helped Alpha Beta spearhead our participation in the backpack program. Thanks Jennifer for helping us help others who are experiencing food shortages/childhood hunger!



RAYS OF SUNSHINE CONTINUED ...



HEARTFELT GRATITUDE to Becky Johnen for organizing the Each One, Reach One Initiative. Each active teacher was paired with a retired teacher who served as their caring DKG Sister. Each month that caring DKG Sister would send notes, cards or other little trinkets to let the active teacher know that someone was thinking of them during this crazy year of

teaching during a pandemic. At the March meeting each active teacher got to meet their caring DKG Sister or Sisters. Each teacher shared how much these kind words and gestures meant to them and how much it helped them get through the year knowing that someone was thinking, supporting and/or praying for them and their students. Thank you Royce Boyd, Patricia Brenner, Pat Harrison, Linda Clapper, Wanda Clark, Carol Fritz, Becky Johnen, Linda McElroy, Arlene Fuller, Judy Conrad, Linda Fisher, Kristen Hall, Joan McGreevey Melissa Moorhead, Lois Stoner and Patty Valentine for being truly wonderful supporters to the active educators in our group! The active educators send love, appreciation and gratitude to the whole chapter for their unwavering daily support!

GRANT-IN-AID RECIPIENT – SAMANTHA FICKES



Linda McElroy and Samantha Fickes at the March Meeting.

Samantha Fickes will graduate from Shippensburg University this year with her degree in Childhood Education PreK-4 . Samantha is a member of Kappa Delta Pi's Epsilon Epsilon Chapter of the International Honor Society, Bridge for Kid's Education Club (Public Relation's Chair) and PSEA. Samantha is a full-time student and works in Shippensburg University's Grace B. Luhrs Elementary School. She works with children who struggle with reading. Samantha resides in Imler and is a graduate from Claysburg Kimmel High School. Samantha loves to play intramural basketball and volleyball. In her spare time Samantha is active in various community service projects and many of these projects involve working with children. Alpha Beta is very honored to award our Grant-In Aid scholarship to this distinguished young educator and we wish her all the best in her educational endeavors! Alpha Beta has committed to supporting Samantha with lots of support as she embarks on her teaching journey in the years to come! - **Linda McElroy**

RECOGNIZING KEY WOMAN EDUCATOR – AMY SNYDER

Amy Snyder of the Tussey Mountain School District was recognized as a key woman educator, one who is outstanding in her field, makes a positive difference in the lives of students, actively engages students in the teaching/learning process, strives for excellence in education, rises above the status quo, and brings out the best in others.

Amy has been teaching at the Tussey Mountain High School over 20 years. She currently teaches 9th and 10th grade English and is the department co-chair. She is involved with advising many extra-curricular activities. She worked hard behind the scenes to start televised morning announcements at Tussey. She trains the anchors, camera, and sound crews for seamless announcements each day. For a while, she also brought live sports announcing to the internet with Titan Sports Live. She teaches a popular and fun media class during the day. Most recently, she began teaching journalism- working with the student reporters and creating the first online school newspaper at Tussey. As if she's not busy enough, she also took on the role of yearbook adviser! Not only does she work with the students but she also takes time out of her day to help other teachers with their educational technology needs. The Tussey Mountain School District and her students are lucky to have Amy Snyder as a key woman educator!



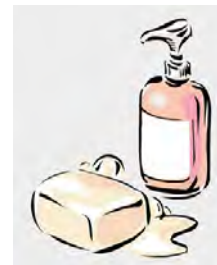
PROJECTS COMMITTEE NEWS

It is so appreciated that several members have been donating their time to cut and knot fleece blankets. The Girl Scouts will continue to help with this Project as their schedule and social distancing allows. We are pleased to have delivered 9 more blankets to the Bedford County Children & Youth in April!

Thanks again for such an “overwhelming” response to the donation of socks at the December meeting! We have become aware of the need for personal care items for those who benefit from the assistance of the Bedford County Children & Youth Services. Starting with the May meeting, there will be a basket to begin a collection of these items and then they will be delivered later this year!

Suggestions of Items:

- toothbrushes
- toothpaste
- soap
- mouthwash
- shampoo
- deodorant



Soon after I became a DKG member in 1993, I enjoyed being a part of the Projects Committee with my mentor, Margaret “Marge” Dean. At that time to help finance the Project of donating children’s books to Doctors’ and Dentists’ offices in our Chapter area, small cloth bags were distributed at a meeting. Marge explained that they could be called “Rainy Day Bags” because each day that there was any precipitation, a few coins were to be put in the bag. Hence, the name “Rainy Day Bags” that were distributed to collect money to assist the Jabulani School! So, when there is precipitation, or not, please put some extra change in your bag. Return your bag to the May meeting or bring a donation at that time. Your contribution to this Project is so appreciated in helping to provide meals, to the children, at the Jabulani School! - **Linda Clapper**

STATE CONVENTION BASKET 2021 – SNOW DAY THEME

In case any chapter member might need recommendations for our chapter’s raffle basket for State Convention, the following lists should help in your decision. All items are welcomed so these are just suggestions based on items already donated. The May meeting is the last chance to bring items to include in the basket.

- Hot Tea
- Glue Sticks
- Colored pencils
- Crayons and coloring books (Children’s and Adult’s)
- Markers
- Activity books
- Deck of cards
- Hat and scarf
- Board games, checkers, dominoes
- Baking or cooking items
- Items for personal pampering (aromatherapy, body or hand lotion, scented soap

We have the following items covered and request that you would consider donating another item from the list on the left: We do not need
Hot chocolate
Jigsaw puzzles
Throws

- **Lois Stoner**

CHAPTER DUES

Chapter dues are due by **June 1st**.
Active member dues are \$89.00.
Reserve member dues are \$32. Please
make checks payable to **Delta Kappa
Gamma**.

Please send your payment to Pat
Harrison. Due to privacy restrictions we can
not post Pat's address but if you need Pat's
address please contact her directly.

-Pat Harrison and Royce Boyd

UPDATING OF "MY PROFILE"

At our March meeting, Treasurer Pat
Harrison shared the request of International
for all members to update their contact
information in the "My Profile" section in
MYDKG on the International website.
Updating our profiles helps to improve the
accuracy of the information in the DKG database
ensuring that International and States are able to
successfully reach out to the membership.
Directions on how to access MYDKG were
handed out at that meeting.

For chapters reaching 100% participation from
its members they will have the opportunity
to interact with DKG President Becky Sadowski
or one of the Administrative Board members
via Zoom. After signing in on the International
website, it will only take a minute to two to
review the information International has on file.
Anyone with questions on this process should
contact me.

- Becky

US FORUM

Although the National Women's History
Museum does not have a brick and mortar
location in Washington D.C., it has a strong
online presence.

Go to nw hm.org to find online exhibits of
trailblazing women. There is also a section on
Students and Educators. If you click on
"National History Day," you will find a 2021
theme video "Communication in History."
Women demonstrate that dress and dance are
alternate ways to deliver their ideas. Speech is
just one way to communicate. The website
features much information concerning former
and current issues.

-Pat Brenner

MAY'S MEETING WILL BE MARVELOUS

There will be lots of exciting happenings at
our May meeting. We will celebrate our
73 rd Chapter birthday! Sisters from Alpha
Delta in Somerset will be joining us. Two
outstanding women educators (Kathy Miller
from Northern Bedford and Nikki Gephart
from Tussey Mountain) will be joining us to
receive their certificates. Melissa and
Candace have an exciting program -
**Conversations with Meteorologist Christy
Shields from WTAJ News** planned for us. I
hope to see you at Slick's Ivy Stone
Restaurant for this marvelous meeting!

Meeting Date: May 22, 2021

Place: Slick's Ivy Stone Restaurant

Time: 11:00 AM

- Becky

STATE CONVENTION NEWS

Any Convention goer who would like DKG business cards for networking use at Convention let Becky know by June 1st.

Early convention registration is due by May 13. Late registration runs May 14-May 31. Hotel reservations are due by May 10.

Check the state website for details including menus for all meal functions. If you love to sing and are planning on attending convention, consider singing in the Choir. You can sign up on the state website. On home page, header bar (not the state convention button), click on 2021 state convention and in the drop down menu, select 2021 PA State Chorus and Instrumentalists. -**Becky**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE NEWS

International Conferences will be held July 7-10 in Portland, Oregon and July 22-24 in Austin, Texas. Conferences will be hybrid - in person with appropriate safety protocols along with virtual attendance options. Details are on the International website. - **Becky**

CORNETET AWARD

For members still active in the field, if you will be participating in any professional development events between July 1 and December 31, 2021 consider applying for a Cornetet Award from the Society. This award supports professional development activities (such as conferences, seminars, lecture series, online courses, workshops and other non-degree programs) and may pay for registration fees and conference-related materials, travel, lodging, food, substitute teacher, if not provided by the district, and other expenses necessary for participation in the professional development activities. **The award may not be used for:**

- 1) Attendance at Society-sponsored events.
- 2) College or university courses leading to the completion of a degree program.
- 3) Reimbursement of expenses for activities already completed.

Applications and more information on the Award can be found at www.dkg.org website under the DKGIEF tab. If you chose to submit an application, this can be done on line on the www.dkg.org website on the application found under the DKGIEF tab. - **Becky**

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The next newsletter deadline will be **June 3, 2021**. Please send pictures and articles to Tina Smith-Gilbert by this date. Please note this deadline change will allow members more time to submit their articles after the May 22nd meeting. date.

Thank you to everyone who submitted articles and pictures for the May newsletter.

- **Tina Smith-Gilbert**



UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

We would like to wish the following Alpha Beta Sisters 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!



May 11: **Founder's Day**

May 22: **Happy 73rd Birthday Alpha Beta**

May 22: **Alpha Beta Chapter Meeting**

June 11-13: **State Convention**
Scranton, PA

Next Meeting

Date: May 22, 2021

Where: Slick's Ivy Stone

Time: 11:00 AM Business Meeting
12:00 Luncheon
12:45 Program

May 8th Carol
Deremer



June 3rd Laurie Criswell
Joan McGreevey

June 20th Linda Fisher



Alpha Beta Bits
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