



## Alpha Beta Bits

Volume XXXII NUMBER 3

NOVEMBER 2021



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I recently received a Thanksgiving card from a dear friend. The front read "Thankful," and the inside read, "At this beautiful season of Thanksgiving, may gratitude fill your heart and your world." I reflected on the words thankful, Thanksgiving, and gratitude. The word thanksgiving is an expression of gratitude for the people and things that have graced one's life. Simply put, gratitude is being thankful for the good things in our life and being ready to show appreciation for the kindness that we have experienced. When we are grateful, we count our blessings.

DKG and Alpha Beta are blessings in my life. I am so very thankful for all of you and all that you bring to our chapter and to DKG. Think back to our October meeting and how full the tables were with food donations for the six school districts. We are a very giving group. Reflect on how warmly our new and transfer members were welcomed by each and every one of you. We are a very kind and compassionate group. Ponder Linda McElroy's report on our new Teacher Enrichment Grants and the difference those are making for our local educators. We are a group out to make a difference. And, review

the great exchange of ideas that was going on when Amy Snyder asked for thoughts on the workshop for soon-to-be-retired teachers. We are a very open group, willing to share ideas and thoughts.

Dr. Leo Buscaglia (American author, motivational speaker, and a professor in the Department of Special Education at the University of Southern California) said, "The majority of us lead quiet, unheralded lives as we pass through this world. There will most likely be no ticker-tape parades for us, no monuments created in our honor. But that does not lessen our possible impact, for there are scores of people waiting for someone just like us to come along; people who will appreciate our compassion, our unique talents. Someone who will live a happier life merely because we took the time to share what we had to give." Our willingness to give of ourselves – our time, talents, thoughts, and prayers – is helping:

- Many in our communities live happier lives.
- Use us to fulfill the purposes and values of DKG.
- Make those magical connections.
- Bring about endless new possibilities.

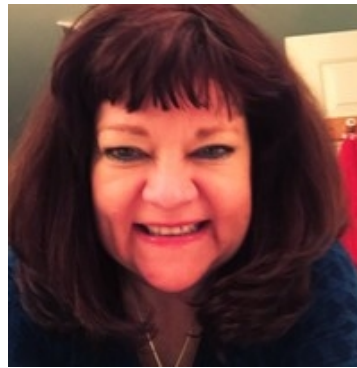
At this time of year when many of our thoughts turn to the people and things that have graced our life, let's extend those thoughts beyond the day or the week or the month when giving thanks is celebrated. Let's give thanks for what we do have and let's make being grateful a part of our daily lives so that our personal life journey can be more satisfying and more positive-oriented and our DKG journey can continue to make a difference for teachers and children in our communities.

Forever grateful for you and your magical touches, **Becky**

## RAYS OF SUNSHINE



Congratulations to Carol Deremer who has been accepted on a Beauty for Ashes mission team to Costa Rica. She will be in Costa Rica March 12-19, 2022 and will be ministering to various groups of women, including single mothers, survivors of sexual exploitation, and Immigrants.



Three cheers for Melissa Moorhead who was in the DKG Spotlight early October.

Heartfelt appreciation to all committee chairs and members for their hard work and dedication which keeps the chapter running smoothly.

Congratulations to Denelle Diehl, second-place winner in the Bedford Area Photography Club's October Black and White Advanced competition!



## WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Samantha Fickes has accepted our invitation to join DKG! She is planning on attending the December meeting so we can give her a



warm Alpha Beta welcome at that time.

If you know of other educators who would benefit from membership in DKG as well as add to Alpha Beta, let Laurie Criswell or Becky Johnen know. - **Becky**

## INFORMATION ON STATE AWARDS

The **Nancy Grove Visionary Fund** awards a grant to in-service active teacher members to fund innovative ideas and activities related to Excellence in Education within the educational community. **(February 1 deadline)**

**Enrichment Grants** will be awarded to active members for three years in good standing who wish to enroll in an Elderhostel Program, continuing education for personal and professional growth, a travel/study tour, or to develop an approved independent study project,

or to present a paper to a professional organization. **(February 1 Deadline)**

**Scholarships** will be offered to active members in good standing for three years who are taking graduate study for credit leading to an advanced degree, certification or toward job/self-improvement **(February 1 deadline)**

The **Album of Distinction** (AOD) award is given to recognize a member who has already received an honor or distinction beyond DKG during the 2021 year. If you have any questions see Tina. **(March 1 deadline)**

The **Rosebud Award** is to recognize and honor a new member who has given outstanding service to her chapter and the Pennsylvania State Organization activities and has promoted the purposes and the policies of the DKG International. **(March 15 deadline) - EEC**

## STEM WORK SESSIONS WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS

Kris Walters has reserved January 23, February 27, and March 20 as work sessions for STEM- related projects with her troop. If you are able to help out, mark your calendars now. More details will be shared at a later date. - **Kris Walters**

## TRYING TO REACH BECKY

Anyone emailing Becky will always get some type of response within 24 hours. If you don't, the email never arrived so try again or call her. If you call Becky on her house phone, you will always get a return call within 24 hours. If you don't, try again on her cell phone (as she may be traveling). - **Becky**

## REMEMBER TO CHECK US OUT.

On our chapter website: [alphabeta-dkg.weebly.com](http://alphabeta-dkg.weebly.com). Watch for new pictures and updated project information.

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.

## NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL

2022-2024 nominees for International leadership positions are:

President: Debra LeBlanc  
First Vice President: Marianne Skardeus  
Second Vice President: Beverly Hall  
Member-At-Large: Barbara Baethe  
Regional Directors:  
Europe: No Nominee  
Northeast: Carol Herzog  
Northwest: Beverly Mantey Van-CronkHITE  
Southeast: Teresa Cowan  
Southwest: Susan Perkins  
Canada Representative: Lorna Berlinguette  
Latin America Representative: Grace Rodriguez-Mesa  
Finance Committee: Diane Haskel & Mary Whitten  
Nominations Committee: 2022-2026  
Europe: Riitta-Liisa Arpiainen  
Northeast: Joanne Gregory  
Northwest: Shelia MacKay  
Southeast: Carol Ann Casey  
Southwest: Alejandrina Mata  
DKGIEF Directors (2022-2028): Lace Marie Brogden & Margie Nowak

- **Becky**

## MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCKS

Because you are a member of the Society paying your annual dues, you are entitled to discounts with several companies. Three of those are Capella University, TruHearing, and DentalInsurance.com.

Capella University is an accredited online university that has 52 degree programs with over 1900 online courses. It gives a direct, flexible, and affordable path to a doctorate, master's, or certificate program. Capella also offers professional development webinars and opportunities to earn continuing education. Capella offers a 10% tuition discount for DKG members and immediate family members. The application fee is also waived. Check out **Capella University: Online Accredited Degree Programs** and see if this fits your and your family's needs.

Save 30-60% on hearing aids with TruHearing. TruHearing is a hearing aid benefit program that gives DKG members and their families what is needed to improve hearing at the lowest possible out-of-pocket cost. Choose from standard, advanced, or premium top-rated digital hearing aids to match your lifestyle and budget. Receive professional, individualized care from qualified local hearing care providers and access to the same hearing consultant throughout your treatment. A 45-day trial and comprehensive 3-year warranties back up every order. To get started, call TruHearing today: **1-800-334-1807**.

[Dentalinsurance.com](http://Dentalinsurance.com) is the pioneer of internet dental insurance shopping. Launched two

decades ago, [Dentalinsurance.com](http://Dentalinsurance.com) was the first coast-to-coast marketplace for comparing and buying dental insurance plans online. Consumers can get online quotes and apply for dental insurance and discount plans from leading insurance providers in all 50 states; establish new dental coverage or enhance existing benefits quickly and affordably; compare competing deductibles, premiums, discounts, and benefits from all the top carriers; and consult with a licensed insurance broker to aid in plan selection and find a suitable plan and dentist. Go to [DentalInsurance.com](http://DentalInsurance.com) Official Home | A+ Rated Comparison Site or call (800) 296-3800 to enroll. Discounts are available for DKG members.

## NOTE FROM PAT MARSHALL

Dear DKG Sisters,

Thank you for your many cards, kind wishes, and prayers during this difficult time. You will never know how much they have meant to me. My son, Jim, began his second chemo treatment on Monday the 25th with new and stronger medications added. Please continue to remember us, especially Jim, in your prayers.

Many thanks, **Pat Marshall.**

## STATE CONVENTION SITE SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to everyone who completed the state convention survey from the October meeting. 93% of those responding preferred the convention be held at the Penn Stater due to its central location. We had one

abstention and one person felt too new to DKG to offer an opinion. When President Eileen shares results from the other chapters, we'll let you know the outcome. - **Becky**

## VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CHRISTMAS TEA PROGRAM

Dear Alpha Beta Sisters,

It's November! Time sure does fly. If you were a fly on the wall at the meeting of the Visual and Performing Arts Committee, you already know what is being planned for the program at our Christmas Tea! If you are not a fly, please come so you don't miss anything!

We hope to "satisfy" you!

- **Members of the Visual Arts Committee**

## FUN DKG FACT

The company that bought the former DKG headquarters is going to name the new high rise structure being built on that site the *Annie B* in honor of Annie Blanton. Apparently they were so impressed by the DKG story and Annie's "amazing spirit" that they wanted to honor her and the DKG legacy.

- **Becky**

## PROJECTS COMMITTEE

As the Holiday Season approaches, we can feel so Thankful and Blessed that we can help others! The Bedford County Children & Youth is in need of Hoodies to provide warmth to the children & teens that receive their services. The Hoodies provide that extra layer of warmth that so many of them need!



Specifications:

Children and teen sizes in small, medium, large, and extra-large.

Hoodies can be full zipper, 1/2 zipper or pullover

Solid colors or printed with graphics (No "Star Wars" or symbols of weapons or fighting).

We suggest that you may want to share the cost with a Chapter sister. Any that are brought to the December 4th meeting will be greatly appreciated!

- **Linda Clapper**

## RAINY DAY BAGS

At the December meeting, the "Rainy Day Bags" will be available to take home. Again, they will be used to collect money to assist the Jabulani School in Africa.

There will be a reminder to return it in March 2022. Your contribution to this Project has been so appreciated!

-**Linda Clapper/Linda McElroy**

## U.S. FORUM

It is important that all U.S. members become active and involved in the efforts of the U.S. Forum. Each Society member in the United States is a member of the U.S. Forum at chapter and state levels and when attending regional conferences and International Conventions. The four forums (Canadian, European, Latin American, and the United States) are included in the International structure to address the unique needs, through member participation, of the four Society areas. The activities of the United States Forum have developed into meaningful efforts in many states. Member participation, interest, enthusiasm and action have been hallmarks of the Forum since its inception.

The U.S. Forum was established to enable the United States members to identify and select major educational issues upon which official U.S. Forum action could be taken. At the national, regional, state, and chapter

levels, it serves as a viable vehicle through which members may participate in efforts to make the purposes of the Society come to fruition through action.

Please consider joining us at the National Legislative Seminar in Washington, D.C. on March 6-8, 2022. **- Pat Brenner**

### **Christmas Basket Raffle**

Remember to bring an item worth at least \$5 for our chapter's Christmas basket raffle to benefit the Conference Fund. Tickets will be available for \$1 a piece or 6 for \$5. Also, to save time, please bring address labels to affix to your purchased tickets making it easier to read off your name as a lucky winner!  
**- Lois Stoner**

### **World Fellowship Recipients**

The World Fellowship recipients for 2021 - 2022 have been announced. There are 18 educators receiving the award for the first time and 6 with extensions. Out of these 24 women, 16 are pursuing advanced degrees in the United States, but none are in Pennsylvania.

At the December tea, there will be a basket with recipients' names and pertinent information on small pieces of paper. Please take one (or more) and drop a note, email, or Christmas card to that individual to let her know that DKG members are supporting her. The list of current recipients is also available on the DKG website. Also, remember to drop a note to Zhanar, last biennium's recipient,

currently working as a teaching assistant in Evansville, IN. If you need an address, contact me.

**-Lois Stoner**

### **NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

The next newsletter submission deadline will be on **Feb. 28, 2022**. Please send articles and photos to Tina by this date.  
**- Tina Smith-Gilbert**

### **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*



**Top: (L to R) Kris Olsen and Wanda Keller after the transfer induction ceremony.**

## **PICTURES FROM OCTOBER ALPHA BETA MEETING & INDUCTION CEREMONY**



**Top: (L to R) Becky Johnen; President, Amy Snyder and Nancy Rockey.**

**Bottom: (L to R) Linda McElroy, Laurie Criswell, Candace Claar, Kristen Hall and Becky Johnen**



**Above: Members helped fill the food closets of six school districts (Bedford, Chestnut Ridge, Claysburg Kimmel, Everett, Tussey Mountain, and Greater Johnstown) with their donations for the fall collection for the schools Weekend Backpack Program.**





## NEXT ALPHA BETA MEETING

Saturday, December 4, 2021

Where: Slick's Ivy Stone  
Restaurant  
Osterburg, PA

### Agenda:

10:30 AM: Executive Board Meeting

11:15 AM: Business Meeting

12:00 PM: Christmas Tea

12:45 PM: Program

Visual/Performing Arts  
Committee



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



### December

Judy Conrad 1<sup>st</sup>

Kristen Hall 24<sup>th</sup>

Lois Stoner 25<sup>th</sup>

Wanda Keller 26<sup>th</sup>

Amy Snyder 28<sup>th</sup>

### January

Linda McCahan 9<sup>th</sup>

Yvonne Bowser 26<sup>th</sup>

Royce Boyd 29<sup>th</sup>

Linda Clapper 30<sup>th</sup>



### February

Melissa McDonald 12<sup>th</sup>



**Alpha Beta Bits**  
**Composed, Edited and Printed**  
**By:**

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