



*Caring Makes a Difference*

# GAMMA ALPHA BULLETIN

## “LET’S G.A.B”

**Inside this issue:**

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### December 13 Meeting Reminder

The meeting will be held at G. Subu’s Leather Bottle on Farmington Road, south of Eight Mile in Livonia. The Service Project will begin at 4:00 (note the time change) and we’ll have dinner after the project (5:00-5:30.) There is no room charge as long as the majority eat dinner at the restaurant.

There will be an Executive Board Meeting at Jackie’s home on January 10 at 4:30. Directions can be found in the calendar and minutes. There will be no January Newsletter. I’ll send out email reminders for the meeting.

Birthday Dinner & Sunshine Committees need to select a venue for the April 25 Birthday Dinner.

### *The Nature of Women*

Famous authors, politicians, and poets have extensively written about 'woman.' Read these quotes and you’ll be singing, “I am woman, hear me roar!”

**Nancy Reagan, Political Activist**

A woman is like a tea bag. She only knows her strength when put in hot water.

**Aristotle, Philosopher**

If women didn't exist, all the money in the world would have no meaning.

**James Thurber, American Humorist**

I hate women because they always know where things are.

**Malcolm de Chazal, Mauritian Author**

A woman knows how to keep quiet when she is in the right, whereas a man, when he is in the right, will keep on talking.

**Jules Michelet, French Historian**

Woman is a miracle of divine contradictions.

**Freya Stark, Author**

The great and almost only comfort about being a woman is that one can always pretend to be more stupid than one is and no one is surprised.

**Gloria Steinem, American Feminist**

Someone once asked me why women don't gamble as much as men do and I gave the commonsensical reply that we don't have as much money. That was a true but incomplete answer. In fact, women's total instinct for gambling is satisfied by marriage.

**Margaret Thatcher, Former British Prime Minister**

In politics if you want anything said, ask a man. If you want anything done, ask a woman.

**Dianne Feinstein, Politician**

[on women's role in government] Toughness doesn't have to come in a pin-stripe suit.

### *Mission Statement*

*The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
promotes professional and personal growth  
of women educators and excellence in education.*



## *Minutes in a Minute*

November 29, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Jackie Smart at 5:20 pm at G. Subu's Leather Bottle in Livonia. The first order of business was the initiation of two new members, Danielle Jopek and Marianne Reinhard. After a brief and lovely ceremony, the two new members were welcomed with a family style dinner and the opportunity to participate in the chapter's popular Christmas Auction. We had 25 Gamma Alpha members attend the auction. Four attendees were from Metro Council's Zeta Chapter and our members brought 17 guests to join in the fun. It was a lively evening of enthusiastic bidding on the many wonderful items donated by members. Although it was unplanned, the apparent theme for this year was SNOWMEN. Initial figures show that a total of \$1,645.00 was collected. The proceeds will be used to fund three scholarships for college students in education programs. In addition to the auction, a 50/50 raffle was held. Carol Holland was the lucky recipient of \$93.50. The Grant-in-Aid application is located under "Forms" on Gamma Alpha's website [www.migammaalpha.org](http://www.migammaalpha.org). Send the completed application forms to Mary Jo by March 31.

Our Service Project for the Wayne County Family Center will be on Wednesday, December 13 at **4:00**. (Please note that we are starting earlier than usual.)

1. First we will decorate the stockings with iron on transfers.
2. Then we will fill the stockings with the items that members bring.
3. After the project we will have dinner and a brief meeting during dinner.

If you are unable to attend please give your donation to another member who is coming or drop off your items at Jackie's house. (*Address/directions can be found in the January calendar.*)

FYI:

- Esther has purchased 48 stockings for the project as her donation. The Stockings are approximately 15x6 inches. Small items are suggested to fill the stockings.
- Jackie has purchased 48-5x7 activity/coloring books and 48 snowman pencils.
- The Service Project fund will buy 48 boxes of

crayons for the stockings and some fresh fruit for the Family Center.

The Service Project Committee suggests that several members team up to purchase items either from dollar stores or [www.orientaltrading.com](http://www.orientaltrading.com) where you can buy small bulk items.

### **Suggested stuffers include:**

Memo pads	Erasers	Small games
Glitter pens	Holiday candy	Gel pens
Stickers	Small craft projects	Markers
Card games	etc., etc., etc.	

Please **RSVP** by December 11 to Jackie at [jackie@mymartfamily.com](mailto:jackie@mymartfamily.com) so she can let the restaurant know how many to expect. The Service Project and Yearbook Committee chairmen thank you in advance for your donations for this project.

The auction/meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Anderson, Recording Secretary

## *RIF's 40th Anniversary*

Reading is Fundamental prepares and motivates children to read by delivering free books and literacy resources to those children and families who need them most. Founded in 1966, RIF is the oldest and largest children's and family nonprofit literacy organization in the United States. RIF's highest priority is reaching underserved children from birth to age 8.

All RIF programs combine three essential elements to foster children's literacy: reading motivation, family and community involvement, and the excitement of choosing free books to keep.

### **Best Books Survey Top-Ten List**

The Cat in the Hat - Dr. Seuss  
Where the Wild Things Are - Maurice Sendak  
Goodnight Moon - Margaret Wise Brown  
Where the Sidewalk Ends - Shel Silverstein  
Tale of Peter Rabbit - Beatrix Potter  
Curious George - H.A. Rey  
Madeline - Ludwig Bemelmans  
Make Way for Ducklings - Robert McCloskey  
The Velveteen Rabbit - Margery Williams  
The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Eric Carté

## *State & International Tidbits*

### *International*

[www.deltakappagamma.org](http://www.deltakappagamma.org)

The *Delta Kappa Bulletin* is undergoing big changes because of actions taken at the 2006 International Convention. Due to high printing and mailing charges, two of the four issues will be posted online. This means a change in format to allow for easier reading on a computer or for printing a copy from that source.

International wants presidents to encourage members to read the *Bulletin* and submit articles relating to topics listed in each issue. Also, poetry and art suitable for the themes is always appreciated.

### *State*

[www.deltakappagamma.org/MI](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/MI)

Alpha Iota is offering a Leadership Development Workshop Retreat March 23 and 24, 2007 at the Kettunen Center. Kettunen Center is a complete conference and retreat facility located on Center Lake in Tustin, Michigan, just 20 minutes south of Cadillac. It is owned and operated by the 4-H organization. The retreat is appropriate for anyone who enjoys camaraderie, learning and fun. If you are interested in attending this retreat, print the registration form off the State website or ask me for one. You'll find it under "Forms." The cost for the weekend retreat is \$89. This fee includes lodging and three delicious meals. I plan on attending and hope to see some of you there. The deadline for registration is March 1.



## *Five Quickie Exercise Moves for the Time-Strapped*

Burn calories and tone muscle - without scheduling a workout!

### **Brushing Your Teeth**

Rise onto the balls of your feet and hold for 2 seconds before lowering. Repeat 30 times.

### **Waking Up**

While lying on your back, tense and release your abs 30 times.

### **Commuting**

Gripping the steering wheel for resistance, squeeze your biceps and triceps and hold for 20 to 30 seconds. Repeat 15 times.

### **Cooking Dinner**

Flex your right foot and lift your leg to the side, 12 inches off the floor. Repeat 15 times per leg.

### **Watching TV**

Stand up with your feet slightly wider than hip width. Push your butt back and lower into a squat until your tush touches the couch. Then stand again. Repeat 15 times.

## December 13th Agenda

4:00- **Tonight's meeting** is sponsored by Service Projects & Yearbook Committees- **Esther & Colleen** . They will explain procedures for this evening's Christmas project for the Family Center.

5:30- **Dinner** at The Leather Bottle  
*(Please stay for dinner after the project. We have to pay for the room if we don't eat.)*  
During dinner we will have a brief meeting.  
Quick Opener- Bonnie, Carol, & Mary Jo  
Treasurer's Report from the Holiday Auction  
**Committee Announcements**

- **February 7- Cindy & Lynne-** Legislation/ US Forum & Research; Update regarding Dream Dinners Field Trip
- **March 7- Grace & Chris S.-** Finance & Music; Update regarding our meeting about Preventing Identity Theft
- **April 25- Helen , Carol A., Donna, & Nancy-** Birthday & Sunshine Committees ; Update regarding the Birthday Dinner location, Birthday Ceremony, & Favors

### **New Business & Announcements**

**Delta Kappa Gamma Song-** Chris Smith  
**Adjournment**

## *The Sunshine Committee Sends*

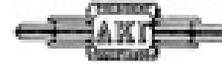
### *December Birthday Greetings To...*



*12 Barbara Broadley*

*30 Judi Fisher*

## President's Message



### *Get Smart!*

I promise, this is the last message about membership! Gamma Alpha's membership is currently at 33 members. Colleen Fisher, Laura Barrett, Pat Curd, Joan Lyon (health reasons), Bonnie Schweitzer (health reasons), and Linda Fullerton have resigned their membership from the Society. We initiated Danielle and Marianne last month. Not only do we need to seek out new members, but we need to discover how to **keep them** in the Society. Here are some more tips generated by the attendees at the workshop hosted by the International Membership Committee during the 2006 convention.

#### **Where do you look for new members other than in mainstream schools?**

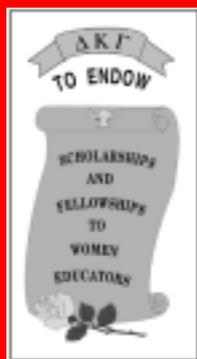
- Look for prospective members at professional meetings. Invite them to meetings, recommend them for membership in chapters in their own areas.
- Seek out daughters, daughter-in-laws, and nieces of members and relatives.
- Contact former members about reinstatement.
- Talk about philanthropic opportunities- helping others.
- Remember that substitute teachers are an important piece of the educational community.

#### **How do you attract young professionals to meetings?**

- Provide issue-oriented and project-oriented meetings.
- Emphasize scholarships and grants available from the Society.
- Emphasize that members are great mentors and supporters.
- Invite two or more at a time so they have a "buddy."
- Relevant programs are essential.

*(Continued on page 5)*

# *Seven Purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*



*(Continued from page 4)*

- Invite new young educators to present a program.
- Adopt a school– act as volunteers to educators there.
- Sponsor activities such as children’s storytelling, poetry competition– as a contact to teachers.
- Invite superintendent, school board members to discuss educational issues.
- Provide personal support programs for new teachers.
- Donate to a beginning teacher’s library– include Society information.

### **How do you respond to “I don’t have time”?**

- TIME is important to everyone– make efficient use of time:
  - Use an agenda (I do this in each newsletter.)
  - Start on time (we do this.)
  - Be organized (I am OCD about this!)
  - Use parliamentary procedure to keep control of the meetings and discussion (Barb does this for us!)
- Make meetings important– provide a reason for attending. (Judi and the planning committee have provided interesting programs for us.)
- Don’t “penalize” members for missing meetings; just welcome them when they are able to attend.

Let’s have a good turnout for our Service Project this month. Bring goodies to stuff 48 stockings for children at the Family Center. See you at the Leather Bottle on December 13 at 4:00..

*Jackie*

## *Gamma Alpha Executive Board & Committee Chairmen 2006-2008 “Caring Makes a Difference”*

<i>Jacquelyn Smart:</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Judi Fisher:</i>	<i>First Vice President</i>
<i>Amy Wainwright:</i>	<i>Second Vice President</i>
<i>Carol Anderson:</i>	<i>Recording Secretary</i>
<i>Cindy Dietz:</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Barbara Broadley:</i>	<i>Parliamentarian</i>
<i>Judi Fisher:</i>	<i>Past President</i>
<i>Jacquelyn Smart:</i>	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>

### **Committee Chairmen**

<i>Barbara Broadley:</i>	<i>Personal Growth</i>
<i>Esther Loskowske:</i>	<i>Service Projects</i>
<i>Marge Braun, Amy Wainwright:</i>	<i>Professional Affairs</i>
<i>Lynne Elsesser:</i>	<i>Research</i>
<i>Cindy Dietz:</i>	<i>US Forum/Legislation</i>
<i>Chris Smith:</i>	<i>Music</i>
<i>Mary Jo Dreffs:</i>	<i>Grant-in-Aid</i>
<i>Helen Mate:</i>	<i>Birthday</i>
<i>Carol Holland:</i>	<i>World Fellowships</i>
<i>Colleen Retherford:</i>	<i>Yearbook</i>
<i>Sherry Green:</i>	<i>History</i>
<i>Carol Anderson, Donna Colaianne &amp; Nancy Chiasson</i>	<i>Sunshine</i>
<i>Grace Morgan</i>	<i>Finance</i>
<i>Bonnie Franka, Joan Murray &amp; Carol Palk:</i>	<i>Ice Breakers</i>
<i>Open:</i>	<i>Nominations</i>



## Good Reading

### Whitethorn Woods

By Maeve Binchy

“Whitethorn Woods” is the latest novel of best selling Irish author Maeve Binchy. I confess to being an avid Maeve Binchy fan. I find her novels enjoyable with interesting and likeable characters .

The novel is based in the town of Rossmore in Ireland a once small town which has grown in size and has a large amount of traffic piling through the small narrow roads. The town has become divided over the possibility of a new bypass which would improve traffic congestion but may reduce the amount of visitors and therefore income for many of the residents. However the main concern over the bypass is that it will cut through the nearby Whitethorn Woods endangering the St. Ann’s Well where many make pilgrimage to pray and ask St Ann for husbands, children, health, etc.

“Whitethorn Woods” tells the stories of some of the people who have a connection to Rossmore or have visited St Ann’s Well. We begin the story with Father Brian Flynn who is the priest of the town and in the first chapter he sets the scene with the problem of the well and introduces us to a few of the characters.

Each chapter then introduces us to another two characters who have a connection with Rossmore. So the novel continues with each chapter telling a different story, connected usually only through the town but occasionally each others stories slightly interwoven with another.

Finally at the end Maeve Binchy returns to the story of Father Flynn and then ends the chapter by a brief update on the stories of some of the characters we have already come across and so showing how the various individual stories of the characters can be brought together.

## Good Eating

### Rachael Ray’s Carbonara

*This recipe was from Good Housekeeping magazine. I made it and it is really easy to make and good– but it can be problems for your waistline if eaten in copious amounts.*

#### Ingredients:

Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste  
1 pound pasta, such as spaghetti or rigatoni  
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil (enough to coat bottom of pan)  
1/4 pound pancetta (Italian bacon), chopped  
1 teaspoon red pepper flakes  
5 to 6 cloves garlic, chopped  
1/2 cup dry white wine  
2 large egg yolks  
Freshly grated Romano cheese  
Handful of finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley, for garnish

#### Directions:

1. Put a large saucepot of water on to boil. Add a liberal amount of salt and the pasta. Cook to al dente, about 8 minutes.
2. Meanwhile, heat a large skillet over medium heat. Add the olive oil and pancetta. Brown pancetta for 2 minutes. Add red pepper flakes and garlic and cook 2 to 3 minutes more. Add wine and stir up all the pan drippings.
3. In a separate bowl, beat yolks, then add 1 large ladleful (about 1/2 cup) of the pasta cooking water. This tempers the eggs and keeps them from scrambling when added to the pasta.
4. Drain pasta well and add it directly to the skillet with pancetta and oil. Pour the egg mixture over the pasta. Toss rapidly to coat the pasta without cooking the egg. Remove pan from heat and add a big handful of cheese, lots of pepper, and a little salt. Continue to toss and turn the pasta until it soaks up egg mixture and thickens, 1 to 2 minutes. Garnish with parsley and extra grated Romano. Serves six.



## 2006-2007 Gamma Alpha Chapter

Put these dates in your planner now and check out our website for future newsletters, forms, links, photos and more at: [www.migammaalpha.org](http://www.migammaalpha.org) RSVP to Judi Fisher five days before the meeting date at [judifisher@yahoo.com](mailto:judifisher@yahoo.com) or [jackie@mysmartfamily.com](mailto:jackie@mysmartfamily.com) (when Judi's email is on the fritz!)

**December 13, 2006** Holiday Stockings for the Wayne County Family Center.

Service Projects Committee are the hostesses for this meeting. Esther and her committee will purchase Christmas stockings for members to decorate. We are requested to donate small items and treats to fill the stockings. We will make 48 stockings so keep this number in mind when purchasing items. A flyer has been emailed with further information.

**January 10, 2007** Executive Board beginning at 4:30 at Jackie Smart's Home.

Business Meeting and Annual Reports for the State.

Chairmen hosting February, March and April's meetings should be prepared to update your meeting details to Executive Board in person or via email. Program and/or meeting ideas for 2007-2008 are also welcome.

Directions to Jackie's house:

North on Farmington Road to Seven Mile. Turn Left.

Go ½ mile to Gill (there is a traffic light). Turn Right.

After 3 stop signs turn Right on Navin.

Make an immediate left on Southampton Drive.

I am at the end of the block (Southampton and Whitby) on the right hand side of the street.

20158 Southampton. (248) 476-8659.

**February 7, 2007**

*Dream Dinners— All the Ingredients for a Great Meal.*

Legislation and Research Committees are the hostesses. Gamma Alpha has booked a two-hour session at Dream Dinners. You will meet at store and assemble three meals (or more if you share meals) that you can take home and store in your freezer. The meals portions are for six. All you have to do to enjoy a delicious family meal is to thaw and cook. Dream Dinners provide all of the ingredients with easy-to-follow instructions and freezer containers. The planning and preparation are done for you, as well as the clean up. All you have to bring is a bag to carry your dinners home and pop them in the freezer until your are ready to use them. Coffee and snacks will be provided by Dream Dinners.

**Procedure:**

1. Visit [www.dreamdinners.com](http://www.dreamdinners.com)
2. Members will pre-register, pay by credit card on Dream Dinners' secure website and choose three dinners. Our group name is Delta Kappa Gamma and the password is gammaalpha (one word no spaces or capitals).
3. Our session time for Dream Dinners is February 7 from 5:00-7:00.
4. Arrive and assemble your meals.
5. Freeze your dream Dinners at home.
6. Cost per member is \$49.50.
7. If you don't feel comfortable registering online, call Jeannie (248) 477-8300 for help. More information and reminders will be available in future newsletters.

**Livonia Dream Dinners**  
**33591 Seven Mile Road**

(Just 1/4 mile west of Farmington Road in the Stamford Plaza, next to the Italian Bakery.)

**March 7, 2007**

*Preventing Identity Theft*

Finance and Music Committees are hostesses for this meeting. A speaker from the State Attorney General's office will speak to us about the fastest growing crime, identity theft and some steps to help prevent this from happening to you. Members arrive at the Leather Bottle at 5:00 for conversation and cocktails, dinner at 5:30. Meeting will begin at 6:30. More information in future newsletters.

**April 25, 2007**

*Birthday Dinner* The Birthday Committee members and Sunshine Committee are the hostesses for this meeting. More information regarding cost and location in future newsletters.

**May 4-6, 2007**

*Alpha Iota State Convention 2007*

Detroit Marriott Pontiac at Centerpointe. Judi and Jackie are co-chairs for the state Convention.

Details regarding the convention will be in future newsletters, the *Winter Wolverine* Alpha Iota State website: [www.deltakappagamma.org/MI](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/MI)

**June 2, 2007**

*Planning Meeting for 2007-2008*

Join us for breakfast at Five at St. John's at 10:00. Come armed with program ideas for 2007-2008. After breakfast and program planning we can be refreshed with a walk through The Gardens of St. John's Center for Youth and Family. The Gardens have been created to inspire spiritual reflection for all who visit. More information in future newsletters.



Two new members were initiated into Gamma Alpha on November 29. Judi Fisher sponsored Marianne Reinhard and Lynne Elsesser is with her new initiate Danielle Jopek. We know these key women educators will be an asset to our chapter and ΔΚΓ. Enter our company. Share our warm friendships.