



GAMMA ALPHA BULLETIN

“LET’S G.A.B”

Caring Makes a Difference

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IT’S MI IDENTITY!



Grace Morgan arranged for Angela Branch to speak to Gamma Alpha about a growing problem– identity theft. Ms. Branch, a representative from the Michigan Attorney General’s office, presented facts and some solutions about identity theft:

- Nearly seven million people across the nation become victim’s of identity theft.
- Identity theft in Michigan is greater than the national average for credit card, telephone, cell phone and utility fraud.
- Most victims of identity theft are more than forty years old. Victims can be living or deceased.
- Most victims fail to notify the proper authorities or file formal complaints.
- The average identity theft victim spends about 175 hours of time and \$1400 to restore credit.

Ms. Branch gave recommendations for preventing identity theft:

- Never give out your Social Security number, driver’s license, bank or credit account numbers unless you know the person or organization who initiated the contact.
- Treat checkbooks, ATM and credit cards as if they’re cash– protect them.
- Shred personal information, receipts, statements and credit card offers.

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Chapter website
www.migammaalpha.org

Birthday Dinner April 25 Reminder

Meet at Leather Bottle at 4:30 for cocktails. We will initiate new members at 5:00. Dinner will be served at 5:30. Dinner will cost \$25. Please send your check made out to *Gamma Alpha* by April 20 to :

Cindy Dietz
7329 Gilman
Westland, MI 48185

Be sure to register for the State Convention. Hotel and convention registration information was in the last newsletter and is on the State website.

www.deltakappagamma.org/MI

Mission Statement

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



Minutes in a Minute

March 7, 2007

Meeting was held at G. Subu's Leather Bottle in Livonia. Call to order was at 5:30. Twenty-two members attended.

Second Vice President Amy Wainwright presented an orientation for membership candidates Pam Emerson, Karen Scott, and Jennifer Chambers. Kristen Chiasson, and Judy Hurley were unable to attend the orientation. Committee chairs assisted the orientation by giving a brief description of their activities and responsibilities within the organization.

Jackie announced that a vote will be held at the convention to raise state dues by \$3.00. The question is posed whether chapter dues should be raised to meet this additional cost. The Finance Committee will discuss this at the annual audit and make recommendations to the chapter.

Helen announced that the Birthday Dinner will be held at G. Subu's Leather Bottle. The cost of the family style dinner will be \$25. This is a little bit more than the Holiday Auction dinner. We need to purchase roses for the Initiation Ceremony, retirement gifts, Chapter Women of Distinction charms, and pay for the Friends of Education dinners. Please send your check for dinner to Cindy for the dinner.

Members were reminded of the brunch planning meeting scheduled for Saturday, June 2 at Five at the St. John Conference Center in Plymouth. All members are invited to attend with suggestions, ideas, etc. for the coming year of Gamma Alpha activities. If you are unable to attend, you may give your input to any board member or committee chairperson so that your voice may be heard. The chapter is seeking new ideas to meet the needs and concerns of all members.

Amy reminded members that CEUs are available for participation in sessions at the upcoming state convention.

After the business meeting was concluded, Grace Morgan introduced Angela Branch from the State Attorney General's office who spoke about the crime of identity theft.

According to Attorney General Michael Cox, identity theft is "an invisible mugging" that goes unreported 61% of the time. It is the fastest growing crime in the country. A large number of victims are the elder population but even infants have had personal information stolen for fraudulent use. Some of the tips given to protect from identity theft include the following: shred private documents, check all statements carefully, empty the mailbox, secure social security numbers, limit pre-printed information on items such as checks, retrieve receipts after all transactions, and request a credit report at least annually.

The chapter thanks Grace for arranging the excellent speaker with such an informative presentation.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol A. Anderson, Recording Secretary

The Sunshine Committee

Sends

April and May

Birthday Greetings To

April 1 Lynne Elsesser

May 4 Sandy Becher

May 4 Colleen Retherford

May 15 Carol Palk

May 28 Joan Murray

May 29 Bonnie Franka

*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 & Nancy Chiasson</i>	<i>Sunshine</i>
<i>Grace Morgan</i>	<i>Finance</i>
<i>Bonnie Franka, Joan Murray & Carol Palk:</i>	<i>Ice Breakers</i>
<i>Open:</i>	<i>Nominations</i>

International Events

www.deltakappagamma.org

Northeast Regional Conference
Grand Traverse Resort and Spa
Acme, MI

July 25-28, 2007



State Events

www.deltakappagamma.org/MI

Alpha Iota State Convention 2007

Detroit Marriot

Pontiac at Centerpoint

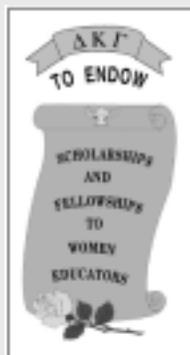
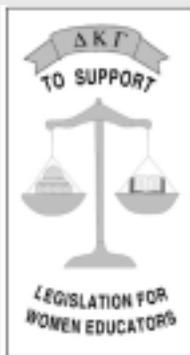
May 4-6, 2007

Information is in the current *Wolverine*

Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not; it is the first lesson that ought to be learned; and however early a man's training begins, it is probably the last lesson that he learns thoroughly.

Thomas H. Huxley
English biologist (1825 - 1895)

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



April 25 Agenda

Arrival, Cocktails, Icebreaker & Camaraderie

4:30 - 5:00

Welcome

Jackie Smart-Gamma Alpha President

Memorial Ceremony for Joan Lyon

Amy Wainwright-Second Vice President
& Membership

Initiation of New Members Ceremony

Amy Wainwright-Second Vice President

Dinner 5:30

G. Subu's Leather Bottle

Program 6:30

Jackie Smart

Friend of Education Awards

Debra Bonde

Larry Janes

Mary Jo Dreffs

Grant-in-Aid Award Announcement

Personal Growth Committee

Chapter Women of Distinction Awards

Judi Fisher-First Vice President

New Retirees Presentation

Esther Loskowske- Service Projects Chairman

50/50 Drawing

Proceeds donated to Seedlings

Helen Mate-Birthday Committee Chairman

Birthday Celebration & Candle Ceremony

Delta Kappa Gamma Song

Please stand and join hands during the song.

(Continued from page 1)

- Have your mail held when going out of town or in the hospital.
- Keep a list of customer service numbers and account numbers in case you need to report a stolen card or any other kind of identity theft.
- Cancel unneeded credit cards.
- Review monthly statements carefully for unauthorized activity.
- Say no to credit card offers by calling 1-888-5-OPT-OUT (567-8688).
- Obtain and review a copy of your credit report each year. For a free annual credit report call (877) 322-8228.

If you're a victim of identity theft, do the following:

- Contact credit reporting agencies and ask for a fraud alert. This prevents new accounts from being opened without your permission. Below are the numbers for the three major credit reporting agencies:

Experian (800) 972-0322

Equifax (800) 255-0056

TransUnion (800) 680-7289

For further ID Theft information, visit

www.michigan.gov/ag the Attorney General's website.

President's Message



Get Smart!

This message will be brief since there is not much space! I am pleased to announce that our membership is growing. We initiated two new members in November and we will have five more join the chapter in April. Way to go, ladies! It would be nice to have as many members as possible come to the State Convention held May 4-6 at the Detroit Marriott at Center Pointe in Pontiac. It is nice to see that our chapter is part of a larger organization of key women educators. The Saturday Workshops at the convention will offer CEUs for those who need professional development hours. So register soon for the Sate Convention.

Jackie

2006-2007 Gamma Alpha Chapter Calendar

Put these dates in your planner now and check out our website for future newsletters, forms, links, photos and more at: www.migammaalpha.org RSVP to Judi Fisher three days before the meeting date at judifisher@yahoo.com or jackie@mymartfamily.com

April 25, 2007 Birthday Dinner

The Birthday Committee members and Sunshine Committee are the hostesses for this meeting. Meet at Leather Bottle at 4:30 for cocktails. We will initiate new members at 5:00. See agenda for further details. Dinner will be served at 5:30. Dinner will cost \$25. Please send your check made out to *Gamma Alpha* by April 20 to :

Cindy Dietz
7329 Gilman
Westland, MI 48185

May 4-6, 2007 Alpha Iota State Convention 2007

Detroit Marriott Pontiac at Centerpointe. Judi and Jackie are co-chairs for the State Convention. Gamma Alpha will be manning the registration table during the Convention. We need a good member turnout at the Convention to complete this task. The hotel is within commuting distance, so you won't have to stay unless you want. Details regarding the convention and workshop sessions can be found in the *Winter Wolverine* and on the state website. Alpha Iota State website is: www.deltakappagamma.org/MI

June 2, 2007 Saturday Planning Meeting for 2007-2008

All of our programs are planned by the membership. Meetings focus on the seven purposes of $\Delta\Gamma$:

1. **Unite women educators in spiritual fellowship** (*We can plan meetings where members share their talents, travels, hobbies, or memorable teaching experiences.*)
2. **Honor distinctive service in any field of education** (*Honor our active and long-time members with certificates of appreciation; recognize those who attained higher-level professional degrees.*)
3. **Advance women in education** (*Bring in community leaders for a Q&A session; invite school board women members to share their experiences; have members share about leadership conferences they have attended.*)
4. **Support legislation for women educators** (*Invite the League of Women voters or legislators to discuss the latest information; study the lobbying process.*)
5. **Endow scholarships to women educators** (*Send congratulations or birthday notes to scholarship recipients; invite former recipients to share their experiences; list hostel, leadership retreats available to members; hold fundraisers for grant-in-aid awards and world fellowships.*)
6. **Stimulate personal and professional growth and services** (*Visit local resources to learn about opportunities for all members: museums, theaters, newspaper offices, nursing homes, judicial environments, senior centers, shelters, art galleries, and historical landmarks.*)
7. **Inform members of important issues** (*Invite legislators for a panel discussion; report on world developments and future innovations; email information updates to members; review opportunities through Delta Kappa Gamma.*)

Be reminded that this meeting is **not** just for Executive Board, but for members who wish to make our chapter vital. Come to our planning meeting armed with ideas **or** suggestions you want Gamma Alpha to be involved with for 2007-2008. Let us know if you are happy having the meetings at the Leather Bottle or would you like to explore another venue. We will have breakfast at Five at St. John's at 10:00. 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. Five is located at 44045 Five Mile at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. We hope to see many members at this important planning meeting. RSVP to Judi or Jackie if you are coming to breakfast so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.