



# Gamma Alpha Bulletin

## “Let’s G.A.B.”

### February 27 Cottage Kitchen Shower for Methodist Children’s Village

During the January meeting, Esther Loskowske creatively surveyed the members at the January meeting for suggestions for future projects for the Methodist Children’s Village. Many great ideas were generated and Esther will share them with us at the planning session in June.

A Cottage Kitchen Shower registry sheet was passed around during the meeting hopefully eliminating duplicate items. If you don’t have time to shop, or can’t be at the February 27 meeting, the Service Project Committee will accept monetary donations to purchase some of the items. Send money to Esther or email your intentions to her at loskowskee@wwcsd.net Shower gifts should not be wrapped.

Remember, it feels good to give to those less fortunate.

### Registry Reminders

**Electric Griddle:** Judi, Linda, and Karen B. will share the expense.

**Iron/Ironing Board:** Carol A. and Grace will share the expense.

**Microwave Oven:** Colleen, Sandy and Cindy will share the expense.

**Pots & Pans:** Donna and Helen will share the expense.

**Blender:** Mary Jo and Joan will share the expense.

**Mixing Bowls:** Pam and Bonnie will share the expense.

**Place Mats :** Bonnie

**Oven Mitts:** Carol A.

**Dish Towels:** Pam

**Baking Sheets:** Marie

**Silverware:** Jackie

**Laundry Baskets:** Esther

**Silverware Organizer:** Someone signed up but didn’t put their name . Who are you?????????

If you were absent and want to donate something, we still need:

**masculine aprons, Rubber Maid storage containers, glasses, cupboard organizers, serving ware and more dish towels.** See you on February 27.

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### February 27

Meet at the Leather Bottle at 4:30. Meeting, favor making and the Cottage Kitchen Shower will follow dinner.

### April 2

Theater Outing  
Committee needs to send me information about this meeting ASAP.

RSVP to Judi if you plan on attending: the February meeting.

judifisher@yahoo.com

**No March Newsletter!**

### Mission Statement

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



## Minutes in a Minute



### Minutes in a Minute January 30, 2008

The meeting began at 4:30 at G. Subu's. 18 members were in attendance. Debra Bonde also attended the meeting as our guest.

Bonnie Franka led an icebreaker called the Rain Dance. We were challenged with our coordination and attention skills.

Esther Loskowske, Service Projects chairman, presented the plan for the Methodist Children's Village Service Project. Gamma Alpha will hold a "Cottage Kitchen Shower" at next month's chapter meeting. The MCV shared a list of household items it needs to keep the cottage kitchens in good working order. Many of the items are help the young residents learn cooking and housekeeping skills as part of their responsibilities. The list was passed around so that we could select which items to donate. Those who were unable to attend the meeting can find which items still need purchasing from page 1 of the newsletter.

It was also suggested that we poll the residents of Methodist Children's Home to see what interests they have so that we might plan projects to do with them.

Members agreed that a tour of the MCV should be planned for next year.

Jackie has prepared a biographical information sheet for members to fill out so that we have more to include in our chapter yearbook. See Jackie if you did not get a sheet.

We were informed that the international DKG wants to raise the dues of each member from \$20.00 to \$40.00. Chapter members expressed some concern and disagreement with the decision. The increase will be voted on at the International Convention in Chicago in July.

Seedlings is holding their annual Bowl-a-thon fundraiser on Sunday March 9. They are seeking volunteers to bowl and to help with other duties surrounding the event. This would be an easy way for the chapter to give some support to Seedlings and the wonderful work they do to help vision-impaired learners.

The chapter has applied for a grant of \$5,000 from the Educational Foundation for Seedlings. The money would go to purchase materials for blind readers. These materials would be gathered in special "Hooray for Braille" bags and donated to young sight impaired students. If the grant is given, the chapter would plan an activity around filling the bags for Seedlings.

Seedlings' founder, Debra Bonde, has also been nominated for Delta Kappa Gamma's Distinguished Service Award. The winner of the award will be announced at the Presidents' Banquet at the State Convention in Kalamazoo.

To finish off the evening, members went to tour the Seedlings office and saw the books and equipment used to print Braille materials. Debra, along with Judi and Jackie, explained the workings of the wonderful service that Seedlings provides. Many members expressed happiness that we are now involved in this worthy endeavor. Several members signed up to volunteer their services. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol A. Anderson, Recording Secretary



### Kitchen Talk March is Casserole Month



#### Tortilla Casserole

##### Ingredients:

- 1 can low-fat condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1/2 cup skim milk
- 1/2 cup fat free sour cream
- 1 medium sized onion, grated
- One 4 ounce can green chiles, diced
- 12 corn tortilla, cut into strips
- 2 cups of chopped cooked chicken
- 4 ounces grated cheddar cheese

##### Procedure:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Spray a 9 x 13" pan with Pam

- and set aside.
3. Combine soup, milk, sour cream, onion and chiles together in a bowl.
4. Spread half of the tortilla strips in the bottom of the pan.
5. Spread half of the chicken over the strips, then half of the soup mixture.
6. Repeat the layers, and top with the cheese.
7. Bake until hot and bubbly, about 30 minutes.

#### Book Club Eat, Pray, Love by Elizabeth Gilbert

This story is a travelogue of soul-searching and self-discovery. At the age of thirty-one, Gilbert moved with her husband to the suburbs of New York and began

trying to get pregnant, only to realize that she wanted neither a child nor a husband. Three years later, after a protracted divorce, she embarked on a yearlong trip of recovery, with three main stops.

Her first destination was Rome for pleasure and savoring Italy's buffet of delights - the world's best pizza, free-flowing vino, and a special emphasis on gelato. She writes, "I came to Italy pinched and thin," she writes, but soon fills out in waist and soul. "

Then she visited an ashram outside of Mumbai, for spiritual searching. Gilbert emulates the ways of yogis in grueling hours of meditation, struggling to still her churning mind.

Finally she travels to Bali for "balancing." She studies with a medicine man and plunges into a charged love affair.

These destinations are all on the beaten track, but Gilbert's humor makes it an enjoyable read. She recalls the first time she attempted to speak directly to God, she writes, "It was all I could do to stop myself from saying, 'I've always been a big fan of your work.'"

You will be fully engaged in the cultural and emotional tapestry that she has woven.



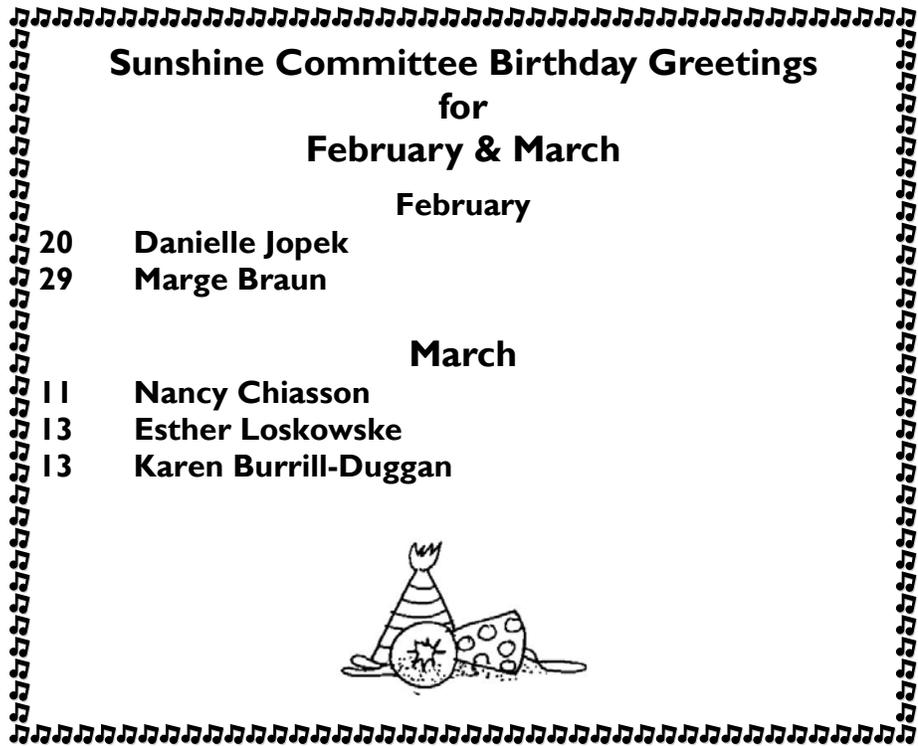
### Sunshine Committee Birthday Greetings for February & March

#### February

- 20 Danielle Jopek
- 29 Marge Braun

#### March

- 11 Nancy Chiasson
- 13 Esther Loskowske
- 13 Karen Burrill-Duggan





## Reminders about Metro Council, State Convention & International News

### Metro Coordinating Council Update

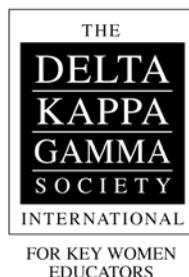
On Saturday, April 19, 2008 Detroit Metro Coordinating Council and Gamma Alpha will hold a Founder's Day Birthday Luncheon at G. Subu's Leather Bottle in Livonia. From 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The luncheon will cost \$20 and will be served family style. A flyer is included in the newsletter. We will honor retirees and our Chapter Women of Distinction at this joint council meeting. Bring a book(s) suitable for a boy 10-16 to the luncheon. We will donate the books to the library at the Methodist Children's Village. Since several regular members will be out of town at this time, Gamma Alpha needs member support at this meeting. Mark your calendar and plan on attending.

### Alpha Iota State



On May 2 - 4, 2008 the Alpha Iota State Convention will be in at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Kalamazoo Center. The registration form is in the *Winter Wolverine* and on our website [www.migammaalpha.org](http://www.migammaalpha.org) We want Gamma Alpha to be well represented at convention this year. Our chapter is in charge of the Founder's Day Birthday Ceremony at the President's Banquet. As State First Vice President, I have planned many interesting workshop sessions and are for SB- CEU credit. So, as long as you have your calendar out noting the Metro Council luncheon, mark this date as well and plan coming to Kalamazoo-zoo-zoo!

### International News



#### “National Legislative Seminar”

The U.S. Forum of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International will hold its 6<sup>th</sup> National Legislative Seminar (NLS) April 20-23, 2008 in Washington, DC. This is a chance for members to actively participate in the legislative process and to meet other members who wish to participate in shaping national legislation. To register for NLS and learn more about the Seminar go to:

[http://www.deltakappagamma.net/US-Forum/legislative\\_seminar.htm](http://www.deltakappagamma.net/US-Forum/legislative_seminar.htm)



## Calendar 2007-2008

**February 27, 2008**

Dinner at G. Subu's

Service Project for Methodist Children's Village. Arrive at 4:30 for dinner and a brief meeting. Please bring items for Gamma Alpha's "Cottage Kitchen Shower." We will also be making favors for the Metro Council Birthday Luncheon that will be held on Saturday, April 19. Grace will lead this activity. We need to really promote this function within our group. Cindy, Esther, Judi, Helen and Lynne will not be able to attend because of scheduled trips. Since this is on a Saturday, most should be able to attend. So **please** put this on your schedule. A flyer is included in the newsletter.

**April 2, 2008**

Theater outing

Location & Cost TBA

*(I need the information from the committee.)*

**April 19, 2008 (Saturday)**

Family style luncheon at G. Subu's

(We need to prepay \$20 for this event.)

Metro Council Birthday Luncheon

RSVP to Cindy by April 1 (See the flyer for information.)

**May 2-4, 2008**

Kalamazoo

State Convention

See the winter *Wolverine* for workshop session and registration information.

Registration forms are also available on our website at [www.migammaalpha.org](http://www.migammaalpha.org)

Register by April 10.

**June 16, 2008**

Installation of New Officers

Executive Board & Members

Planning for 2008-2009

12:00 p.m.

Jackie Smart's home

Salad luncheon will be provided.

Please RSVP to Jackie at: [jackie@mymartfamily.com](mailto:jackie@mymartfamily.com) by June 14.

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. Drive approximately 1/2 mile.

Turn Right on Navin.

Make an immediate left on Southampton Drive. I am at the end of the block (Southampton and Whitby) on the east (right) side of the street.

20158 Southampton.

(248) 476-8659.



I included this again in case you haven't paid Cindy yet!

**Detroit Metro Coordinating Council  
Cordially invites  $\Delta$ K $\Gamma$  members and guests to attend the  
Metro Council Birthday Luncheon**

**On  
April 19, 2008, 11:30-2:00  
At**

**G. Subu's Leather Bottle  
20300 Farmington, Road  
Livonia, Michigan  
(Located south of Eight Mile Road on the east side of Farmington Road)**

**Family Style Luncheon \$20**

**Mixed Green Salad w/ choice of dressing  
Breadsticks  
Chicken Piccata  
Penne w/ Marinara  
Roasted Redskins w/ Rosemary & Garlic  
Green Beans Almondine  
Birthday Cake  
Coffee or Tea**

**Help us celebrate the 79th Birthday of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.  
We will be honoring the 2008 Chapter Women of Distinction from each of our chapters.  
Gamma Gamma Chapter will provide entertainment.  
Bring a book(s) suitable for a boy 10-16 to the luncheon.  
We will donate the books to the library at the Methodist Children's Village.**

**Chapter members should pay Cindy for the luncheon. Make checks payable to Gamma Alpha.**

**Cindy Dietz  
7329 Gilman  
Westland, MI 48185  
(734) 427-9399**

**Members RSVP by April 1, 2008.**



## Seedlings Tour

Gamma Alpha members braved the frigid temperatures on January 30 to visit Seedlings Braille Books for Children. Debra Bonde, Seedlings founder showed a short informative video of the operation and spoke to us about the need for low cost Braille books. Members were impressed with the presentation and several signed up to volunteer. Members expressed how proud they were to be affiliated with this organization.



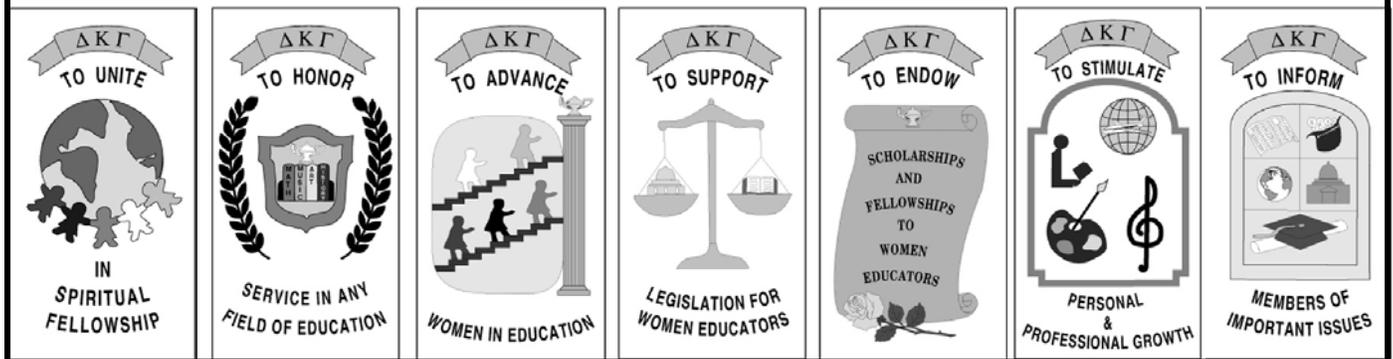
*Front row: Karen, Debra Bonde, Lisa, Grace, Bonnie, Pam. Back row: Donna, Helen, Mary Jo, Cindy, Carol, Linda, and Judi. Colleen left before the photo was taken. Others were at the meeting but could not stay for the tour.*

Our chapter has nominated Debra for Delta Kappa Gamma's Distinguished Service Award for her efforts in bringing the joy of reading to countless visually impaired children locally and worldwide. We have also written a proposal for the International Educational Foundation grant entitled "Hooray for Braille." We will find out at convention if Debra has been selected for the award or grant.



One of the computerized Braille transcribers at Seedlings.

## Seven Purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



### Gamma Alpha Executive Board & Committee Chairmen

#### Executive Board

Jacquelyn Smart:	President/ Newsletter
Judi Fisher:	First Vice President
Amy Wainwright:	2nd Vice President
Carol Anderson:	Recording Secretary
Cindy Dietz:	Treasurer
Barbara Broadley:	Parliamentarian
Judi Fisher:	Past President

#### Committee Chairmen

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

### President's Message

February is almost over. Spring and nice weather are just around the corner. I am ready for a change of season as are you. I want to thank the members who braved the frigid temperatures last month in order to attend our January meeting and "field trip" to Seedlings Braille Books for Children. Debra showed us a four minute video made by Eric Smith (Channel 7) in his "From the Heart" series a few years back. It was a very moving piece. She gave us a comprehensive tour of the facility. Her tireless work in making sure visually impaired children are able to receive low-cost Braille books made me proud that as teachers, we are affiliated with Debra and her non-profit organization. This month we are giving to the MCV. I hope to see you all at this meeting.

*Jackie*

### Agenda February 27, 2008

- Welcome-Jackie
- Ice Breaker Activity- Bonnie, Joan, Carol P.
- Dinner-off the menu
- Brief Meeting
- Making favors for the April 19  
  Birthday Luncheon
- Shower gifts for the Methodist Children's  
  Village