



Gamma Alpha Bulletin

The G.A.B. "Let's Talk"



President's Message

"Over the river and through the woods..." So goes the old Thanksgiving song. I don't think I can recall any other songs written for Thanksgiving but the holiday itself is well-celebrated and enjoyed by many. With all the turkeys, and cranberries, pumpkin pies, and so many other traditional foods; we Americans maintain a pattern of celebration and gratitude. Of course, for many of us Thanksgiving means a beginning of that long run to the biggest of holidays, Christmas.

The newspapers have ads for everything:

- Toys to tools
- Blackberries to Strawberry Shortcakes
- Remote control cars to remote starters for cars.

Beginning with Thanksgiving, we will hear many songs about the holidays. Most of them are traditional and are familiar to us. We probably sing along much of the time even if no one can hear us. Thank goodness! The holiday season is for many of us an extended time of giving thanks. We are grateful that we live in a time and a place where we can openly celebrate our holidays, our relative prosperity, our religious freedom and our many other freedoms.

We love to give gifts! We have the

opportunity this month to share our good fortune with others by supporting the annual Gamma Alpha Holiday Auction. This is the one occasion where we can have a lot of fun and know that the money we spend will be used to help someone complete her education, whether it is for an undergraduate or a graduate degree. I must admit that the auction is one of my favorite Gamma Alpha activities every year. This year's auction will be held at Laurel Manor and I look forward to seeing there. Be prepared for some high spirits and some spirited bidding. We will have fun. We will enjoy each other's company. We will help future women educators. Then we can get started on our caroling with "Sleigh Ride," "Jingle Bells," "Silent Night," and "O, Holy Night". I promise to sing quietly.

So says the prez!



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Meeting Info

See calendar for details.



December 9

Holiday Auction!

Send checks to Cindy Dietz.

Bring guests!

January 12

Initiation of New Members

Speaker : Abraham Lincoln

Used Book sale

RSVP to Jackie at:

jackie@mymartfamily.com

Mission

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

Vision

Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.

Don't forget these dates!

Gamma Alpha Calendar

Holiday Auction Thursday, December 9, 2010

4:30 p.m. Dinner/Holiday Auction

(arrive 4:00 - 4:15 for set-up)

Laurel Manor

39000 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia

(Prepayment of \$25 is necessary for this event.)

Holiday Auction Reminders

1. This year, in order to expedite the auction we decided to make some changes.

- For the smaller items, we will sell raffle tickets and have people put tickets into cups and winners will be randomly selected.
- Some of the larger items will be in the "silent auction" format with pad, pen, a starting bid, and a time cut-off for bids.
- And lastly, some items will be put on the live auction block.

2. Members still need to bring a 3x5 card for each item they donate. On the card, they should describe the item, list the value, and name of the donor. Members should try to bring more than one donation so we will have a variety of auction items. We encourage you to bring guests so we aren't the only ones spending money!

3. Suggested items or services that could be donated:

- Gift certificates
- Baked goods (homemade or purchased)
- "Theme" Baskets (holiday, cooking, movie, teacher, grandma's activity,
- Holiday items/ decorations/plants
- Theater, movie, or game tickets
- Best seller books or books on tape
- Crafts
- Massage/haircut/manicure/pedicure
- etc.



Wednesday, January 12, 2011

4:30 p.m.

Dinner/Business Meeting at Subu's Leather Bottle
(Executive Board will meet at 3:30)

Agenda:

- Business Meeting
- 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: **An Evening with Abraham Lincoln**

We are proud to offer a presentation of the nation's most famous President, Abraham Lincoln this evening. Our presenter will strip away the myth to reveal the inner strength of Lincoln's will and the charm of his character. President Lincoln talks about growing up in a log cabin, how he got his beard, and why he wears such a tall hat. The presenter will share Mr. Lincoln's views about good citizenship, the importance of getting a good education, having respect for the law, and never giving up on oneself. He will also discuss the causes and effects of the Civil War. Our presenter will provide material that can be used in your classroom during Presidents' Month in February. **SBCEU**

Thursday, February 10, 2011

4:30 p.m.

Dinner/Business Meeting Subu's Leather Bottle

Agenda:

- Friend of Education discussion
- Field Trip to the Methodist Children's Village
26645 West Six Mile Road
Redford, MI
- Service Project for the MCV: Valentine Treat donations
- More information in future newsletter.

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

4:30 p.m.

Dinner/Business Meeting Subu's Leather Bottle

Agenda:

Speaker: **Kids 4 Afghan Kids Update**

Teaching students about diversity and the world around them can be a difficult task for educators. Northville teacher, Khris Nedam, and her sixth grade students took a unique approach in learning about Afghanistan. Her students discovered that the country had suffered a long drought, economic disruption due to the Soviet Union invasion, the Taliban rule, and the recent war. Students learned that children in many rural parts of Afghanistan had not had a school or access to a doctor in over 20 years. After understanding the hardships of Afghan

children, Mrs. Nedam's students decided to be proactive and Kids 4 Afghan Kids was born. Under the guidance of their teacher, the students raised money and witnessed, via videotapes, internet and cell phones, the construction of a six-room school, a medical clinic, an orphanage, a bakery/kitchen, a guest house and community well for the residents of Wonkhai Valley, a mountainous area 3 hours southwest of Kabul. Come and be inspired by this unique and ongoing Social Studies project. Khri presented this session at the State Convention and for us last year. This is a review and update of the project. **SBCEU**

Wednesday, April 13, 2011

- Location:** TBD (Probably Judi's house)
Time: TBD (Probably during the afternoon)
Agenda: Convention preparations, stuffing envelopes

State Convention April 15 - 17, 2011

Crowne Plaza Detroit Metro Airport
 8000 Merriman Road
 Romulus, MI 48174

Convention and hotel registration will be available in the Winter *Wolverine* and in future newsletters. Please plan on attending. We will need tons of help! Judi is Registrar and Cindy is the Treasurer.

Thursday, May 12, 2010 Birthday Dinner

4:30 p.m.
 Birthday Dinner
 East Side Mario's
 31630 Plymouth Road in Livonia

Agenda:

- Reunion Birthday Dinner
- Family Style Birthday Dinner at G. Subu's (Pre-payment of \$25 for the family style dinner will be necessary.)
- 6:00 p.m. Program
- Honor Friend of Education, Honor Retirees, Award Scholarships/Grant-in-Aids, Birthday Ceremony

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

Planning Meeting and potluck will be held at Carol Anderson's home. Time 11:00 a.m. More information in future newsletters.



Mensa Musings



The Washington Post's Mensa Invitational once again invited readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition. Here are the winners:

Cashtration: The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period of time.

Intaxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.

Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.

Bozone: The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.

Giraffiti: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.

Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.

Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Karmageddon: its like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.

Decafalon: The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.

Glibido: All talk and no action.

Dopeler Effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.

Arachnoleptic Fit: The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.

Beelzebug: Satan in the form of a mosquito, that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.

Caterpallor: The color you turn after finding half a worm in the fruit you're eating.

DKG Minutes for November 10, 2010



The meeting was called to order at 4:45 by Carol Anderson.

- Colleen Retherford took attendance. 20 were present.
- The minutes from October 14, 2010 were approved as written.
- Jackie started the Happy/Sad opening activity.
- Esther Loskowske collected money for the 50/50 and Marie Canzoneri was the lucky winner. Marie won \$34.00 .
- Please remember to send your checks (\$25.00 for each dinner) to Cindy by November 22 for our Holiday Auction on Thursday, December 9 at Laurel Manor. Everyone should try to bring a guest and auction items to this event.
- Our new member initiation was postponed until our January meeting due to parent teacher conferences.
- Dr. Elizabeth Borg was our guest speaker and she explained how our lifestyle actions affect our brains and bodies. She also gave information about ADHD and food choices. She shared new research about the treatment of menopause. Dr. Borg handed out information about her work. Dr. Borg spoke until 6:45 and answered questions the group's questions. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Carol Palk, Recording Secretary

Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.

Malcolm Forbes

***By learning you will teach;
by teaching you will understand***

Latin Proverb

Navigate the International Web Site in 4 Easy Steps

1. Type DKG.org into your browser window. Click go. The Home Page appears.
2. Notice the menus at the top of the page: Home, Events, Committees, Library, Shopping, Society Web Sites and Forms. Click on the menu of your choice.
3. Look at the left side of the page and click on the name of the category of information desired.
4. Again, look on the left side of the page and click on the information needed.

Did you know?

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Put DKG.org in your favorites file!



Happy Birthday December

- | | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 3 | Pam Husson |
| 11 | Sandra Brock |
| 12 | Barbara Broadley |
| 30 | Judi Fisher |



Why Shoes?

By Sandra Bull Smith

DKG celebrated the Shoe-in Challenge in Spokane – a way to gain, retain and diversify our membership. The more we found out about the mission of TOMS, the more we wanted to be a part of what they do. Our affiliation with TOMS Shoes developed from our respect for the TOMS story and the realization that we have shared goals including helping to make children’s lives better around the world. Did you know that many children in developing countries grow up barefoot? Whether at play, doing chores or going to school, these children are at risk:

- A leading cause of disease in developing countries is soil-transmitted diseases, which can penetrate the skin through bare feet. Wearing shoes can help prevent these diseases, and the long-term physical and cognitive harm they cause.
- Wearing shoes also prevents feet from getting cuts and sores. Not only are these injuries painful; but they also are dangerous when wounds become infected.
- Many times children can’t attend school barefoot because shoes are a required part of their uniform. If they don’t have shoes, they don’t go to school. If they don’t receive an education, they don’t have the opportunity to realize their potential.

The TOMS Story

In 2006, American traveler Blake Mycoskie befriended children in Argentina and found they had no shoes to protect their feet. Wanting to help, he created TOMS Shoes, a company that would match every pair of shoes purchased with a pair of new shoes given to a child in need. **One For One.** Blake returned to Argentina with a group of family, friends and staff later that year with 10,000 pairs of shoes made possible by TOMS customers. As of September 2010, TOMS has given over one million pairs of new shoes to children in need through giving partners around the world. Be a part of **One for One!** Make a difference in the life of a child! When you order shoes from the TOMS web site (www.toms.com) enter the code DKGSI in the discount code box. You will receive a wonderful pair of casual shoes, and a needy child somewhere in a developing country will also receive a pair. In addition, the Educational Foundation will receive a percentage of the sale to be used in their funding of projects. **One For One!**

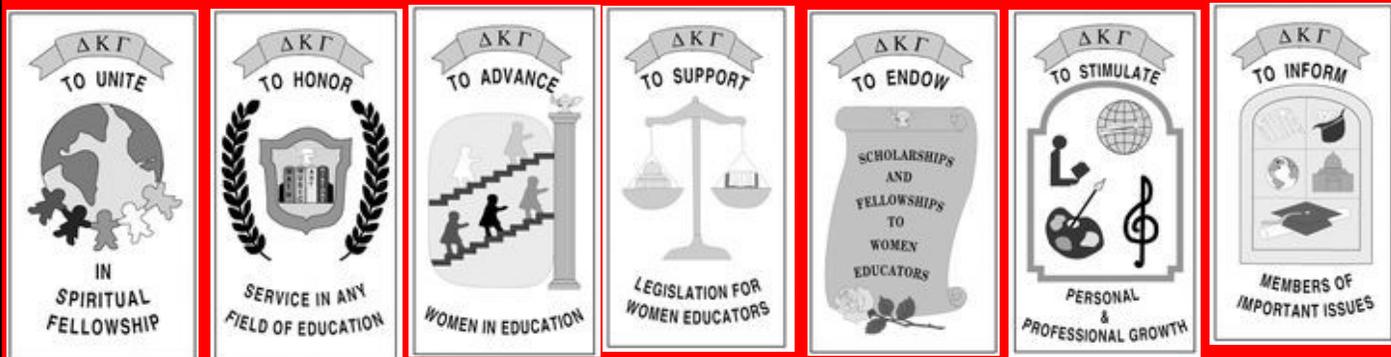
World Fellowships Fund

One of Delta Kappa Gamma’s philanthropic programs is the World Fellowships Fund. It was organized in 1946 to help women in war torn countries. It is now designated for women of third world countries where we do not have members. The purpose is to grant fellowships to enable women to pursue advanced study in the USA and Canada. Michigan currently has a World Fellowship recipient at MSU. Magdaleen “Corne” Lotter is our recipient and grew up in a very small town in the middle of South Africa. Corne hopes to go back to South Africa and make a difference in the school system.

None of the DKG dues go to World Fellowships. Money is raised at the state level through a Silent Auction and Raffle at the state convention and fall workshops. Michigan often contributes the most to the international fund. Gamma Alpha always contributes to these events by providing a theme basket for the state convention.

More information about this International Program is available on the website: www.dkg.org

Seven Purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



Gamma Alpha Executive Board & Committee Chairmen

Executive Board

President	Carol Anderson
1st Vice President/Program	Mary Jo Dreffs
2nd Vice President/Membership	Colleen Retherford
Recording Secretary	Carol Palk
Corresponding Secretary	Jackie Smart
Treasurer	Cindy Dietz
Parliamentarian	Fran Saenz

Committee Chairmen

Personal Growth & Service	Amy Wainwright
Professional Affairs	Lynne Elsesser
US Forum/Legislation	Pam Emerson/Cindy Dietz
Grant-in-Aid	Debbie Ervin
Birthday	Helen Mate/Esther Loskowske
World Fellowships	Esther Loskowske
Yearbook/Newsletter	Jackie Smart
Sunshine	Donna Colaianne & Nancy Chiasson
Finance	Judi Fisher
Nominations	Open
Holiday Auction	Mary Jo Dreffs

Scholarships Offered to DKG Members

To qualify for a scholarship at the international level, the applicant must:

- Be an active member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for a minimum of three years.
- Provide evidence of active participation and of demonstrated leadership in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.
- Have completed a bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- Be accepted and enrolled in a graduate program of a nationally accredited institution of higher education, preferably pursuing a doctoral degree.
- Have not received an international scholarship previously.
- Provide evidence of excellence in scholarship.
- Provide evidence of service to the community.

Application Packet available July 1. Contact Phyllis Hickey for more information phyllish@dkg.org To apply for a Gamma Alpha Grant-in-Aid Award, go to our chapter website at www.migammaalpha.org. Click "Gamma Alpha Chapter Forms." Then click on Grant-in-Aid.