



Gamma Alpha Bulletin

President's Message



"It's not nice to fool Mother Nature." Mother nature has been fooling us very convincingly with the unseasonal weather. We want to turn the soil and plant those summer

flowers. It would be so nice to get a jump start with geraniums, impatiens, and daisies. Oh, but we wisely hold off. We do not want to try and jump the season as Mother Nature has seemed to do,

There have probably been other times when we jumped ahead of the place where nature intended. As gardeners (teachers) we were often given a handful of seedlings (students) and told to plant them in a certain medium (our classroom). Then we were to give them water and fertilizer (instruction) for a season (a school year). At the end of that time we were expected to have a garden of perfectly grown, equally sized plants (yearly graduates). As experienced gardeners, we knew that not all the seedlings were equal when we received them. Some had hardly seen the sun, others had not been fed or watered adequately. Some had not come from seeds of good quality. But, no matter, we were to have equal success with all of our precious seedlings. We worked. We adjusted the water, the fertilizer, even added TLC. We knew that our plants would not all be the same but we treated them all as well as we possibly could. Then at the end of the

growing season we presented them to the world to evaluate. We wept when we saw that some were small because we had given so much attention to them. We swelled with pride when we saw some that had thrived and grown beyond our hopes. We smiled when we saw the average ones because we knew that they had made all the progress that they could. We knew that we were being evaluated as the gardeners and we knew that we had done all that we could. But it hurt to know that we were judged because not all of our seedlings had made equal progress.

It is a blessing to be a teacher or a gardener because we are dealing with sensitive, precious living things. Not everyone's garden is the same. Not every plant grows the same and not every student learns the same. If we do all that we can do, our flowers and our students will thrive as best they are able. No matter how we are judged, we know that we are successful even if our garden will not be photographed for gardening magazines and our students will not be inducted into MENSA. Our efforts make us proud of our results. We can't fool Mother Nature. We can only ask her to be kind to us.

So says the prez!

Carol A. Anderson

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Meeting Info



April 21

Detroit Metro Coordinating Council Luncheon

Antonio's in Dearborn Hts.

\$24 check to Cindy by March 30

See calendar for details

April 25

Michigan Lottery Speaker

See calendar for details.

May 4 - 6

State Convention in Kalamazoo-zoo-zoo See you there

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!



April 21, 2012

Metro Coordinating Council Luncheon

1:00 at Antonio's 26356 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights.

\$24 prepayment. Check payable to Gamma Alpha to Cindy by March 30

April 25, 2012

4:30 p.m.

Hayden's Grill and Bar

39895 Ford Road

Canton (east of I-275)

- 50/50 Raffle - Esther
- Book Sale - Carol P.
- Bring Service Projects donations for MCV
- Colleen will give a brief orientation for new members
- Speaker will begin at 5:00. We will order dinner after presentation.

In Michigan, the lottery is big business. So, why is there still a barrage of school closings and major cutbacks, including layoffs? When you buy that lottery ticket, how much goes to fund education? Our speaker is a representative from the Michigan Lottery will give us the lowdown on the lottery and education.

May 4-6, 2012

Alpha Iota State Convention

Radisson Plaza in Kalamazoo

Convention and hotel registration are available in the Winter *Wolverine* and on the State website at www.deltakappagamma.org/MI. There is a marathon in Kalamazoo this weekend, so book your hotel early. Please plan on attending and support our outgoing and incoming chapter presidents.

May 16, 2012

Gamma Alpha Birthday Dinner

4:30 p.m.

East Side Mario's

31630 Plymouth Road in Livonia

Agenda:

- Chapter Birthday Dinner
- (Pre-payment of \$20 will be necessary)
- Honor Friend of Education, Honor Retirees
- Award Grant-in-Aid
- Bring Service Project Donations for MCV
- Initiation of New Members
- Installation of New Officers
- Recommitment Birthday Ceremony

June 23, 2012

Planning Meeting

All of our programs are planned by the membership. 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 2012-2013. Let us know where you would like our meetings to be held. If you know of a speaker, please bring the contact information. The more cooks in this case the better the soup!

Planning meeting and pot luck luncheon will be held at Carol Anderson's at 11:00. Bring your favorite potato, pasta, fruit, or green salad to pass. We will need rolls and some healthy snacks to munch on while we are meeting. Carol will have dessert and beverages for us. Carol lives in Canton. Take I-275 to Ford Road (west.) She is off Ford Road approximately 2 miles west of I-275. The sub is Nottingham Forest between Lilley and Morton Taylor Roads. From Ford Road turn north on Willow Creek and then left on Wedgewood. Her address is 5855 Wedgewood. Carol's house is on the left. (734-981-3741) Please RSVP your intentions and what you are bringing to Jackie:

jackie@mysmartfamily.com

Kids 4 Afghan Kids Empty Bowls Awareness

We all know that The Delta Kappa Gamma Society is an international honor society that recognizes and supports outstanding women in education and advocates for children. DKG has over 100,000 members in 17 countries, including nearly 2,000 here in Michigan. Our Michigan chapters are involved in many projects that aid the community. Gamma Alpha Chapter became involved in a community learning project called "Empty Bowls." This project is a very meaningful way for students to learn about hunger in the world and the need for clean water. The Empty Bowls awareness evening was held on February 24, 2012. Dinner was a donation of \$5 per person. Gamma Alpha members made crock pots of soup and served for the event. Families come to the school for a meal of soup, bread, and water. Families were encouraged to allow students to have only this meager meal for dinner. Students learned first-hand how little food many families have to eat. \$1900 was earned from the dinner and ceramic bowls that were auctioned off at the event. Canned goods were collected for Northville's Civic Concern and the money proceeds from the event were donated to Kids 4 Afghan Kids.



Gamma Alpha made a variety of soups at the Empty Bowls Awareness Fundraiser. Our taste testers thought they were all yummy!

Helen - broccoli/cheese

Carol VandenBrul - turkey chili

Colleen - bean/lentil + \$20 donation

Jackie - minestrone + \$20 donation

Lynne - beef barley

Esther - Italian sausage/bean

Carol Anderson - chili

Mary Jo- potato

Carol Palk - squash

Fran - potato/leek

Judi - solicited donations of the bread from Great Harvest + \$15 donation.

Pam Emerson - \$15 donation

Our chefs and servers from left to right: Fran, Carol Anderson, Jackie, Lynne and daughter, Carol VandenBrul, Colleen, Khris Nedam, Afghani project director, Jalal Wardak, and Judi Fisher were in attendance at the Empty Bowls Awareness event. Helen arrived after the picture was taken. Esther Loskowske, Carol Palk, and Mary Jo Dreffs made crock pots of soup but had other commitments that evening.

March 21, 2012 Minutes

Our March meeting was held at Hayden's in Canton with a roomful of sisters in attendance.

- Our Metro Council Luncheon will be held on April 21 at Antonio's in Dearborn Heights. The cost is \$ 24.00.
- The deadline for signing up for our state convention is fast approaching. April 15th is the last day for signing up for the May 4-6th event in Kalamazoo. If you are interested in going please let Jackie know because there is a need to find roommates.
- We will also be putting together a basket to be auctioned off at the Convention. The basket will have a yellow theme. If you would like to contribute to the basket please bring a yellow item to the next meeting. (see page 6 article.)
- The Empty Bowls Kids for Afghan Kids fundraiser was very successful in raising \$1900.00. (See article page 3.) Thanks to all who helped and donated soup.
- Please make sure that you check your email for the housing gifts that you will be giving for our Personal Growth and Service project that Amy is organizing. All donations are due by our May meeting.
- Discussion was held on selling flowers as a new fundraiser. Check newsletter (pages 7-9) for order forms. Bring check payable to Gamma Alpha or cash to the April meeting with the order form.
- Wendy Pellerito from the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy was our speaker. Wendy explained what the conservancy was and how it works to preserve, manage and restore land in southeast Michigan. Thanks to Colleen for arranging for our speaker.



Submitted by,
Carol Palk, Recording Secretary

April

1 Lynne Elsesser

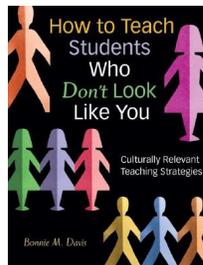
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Happy Birthday, ladies!



How to Teach Students Who Don't Look Like You: Culturally Relevant Teaching Strategies

Dr. Bonnie M. Davis



Written by a professional who has successfully trained hundreds of teachers, Dr. Bonnie Davis' *How To Teach Students Who Don't Look Like You: Culturally Relevant Teaching Strategies* is a straightforward guide especially for school teachers instructing classes with students whose ethnic and cultural background may predispose them to see the world in an entirely different way. Chapters cover how improve one's background knowledge about different cultures and learning styles, how to create an environment that supports diverse learners, researched-based teaching strategies including how to inspire a love of reading and writing in diverse learners, and much more. Written in plain terms, often concentrating its key ideas into easy-to-follow bullet points, *How to Teach Students Who Don't Look Like You* is a singularly valuable resource especially for teachers struggling to close "achievement gaps" in the classroom. Dr. Davis will lead a pre-convention professional development seminar on Monday, July 23, 2012 at the International Convention in New York City. See *DKG News* for registration information.



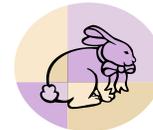
Seedlings Bowl-a-thon

This was Seedlings Braille Books for Children 25th year hosting their Bowl-a-thon fundraiser. The Plaza Lanes in Plymouth hosted the event. Bowlers received shoes, pizza, three games of bowling, and pop. Bowlers who raised \$250 were in a drawing for a Kindle Fire. Jackie worked registration for the event and Judi coordinated the raffle items. This was a fun event and next year Gamma Alpha should sponsor a lane and do some bowling.

Happy Easter

All I need to know, I learned from the Easter Bunny!

- Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
- Everyone needs a friend who is all ears.
- There's no such thing as too much candy.
- All work and no play can make you a basket case.
- A cute tail attracts a lot of attention.
- Everyone is entitled to a bad hare day.
- Let happy thoughts multiply like rabbits.
- Some body parts should be floppy.
- Keep your paws off of other people's jelly beans.
- Good things come in small, sugar coated packages.
- The grass is always greener in someone else's basket.
- To show your true colors, you have to come out of your shell.
- The best things in life are still sweet and gooey.



Five Ways to Create a DKG Buzz

1. Always identify your affiliation with Delta Kappa Gamma when recognized for an honor or when published.
2. Develop an "elevator speech" as a brief description of the Society that can be shared with others who may not know who we are.
3. Leave Society publications in public environments - doctor's office, school libraries, waiting areas.
4. Publicize chapter projects/activities in local media.
5. Recognize outstanding educators and publicize the event.



“Yellow” Theme Basket for Convention

Participating in the Funding Our Purposes auction at state convention is a great way for chapters to get involved and help raise non-dues revenue while giving Alpha Iota members a chance to SHOP!

At the March meeting, Gamma Alpha decided to make a basket filled with “yellow” things. Lots of yellow ideas were discussed. Some ideas were yellow: teapots, white wine, daffodils, sunflowers, daisies, roses, lemonade, banana liqueur, Twinkies, pens, note cards, gardening gloves, watering

cans, wind chimes, dish towels, pot holders...just to name a few.

Be creative with your donations and bring them to the April 25 meeting. Amy will collect the items and assemble our basket/bag for convention. Proceeds from the Funding Our Purposes auction go to three state funds:

- ◆ Scholarships
- ◆ World Fellowships
- ◆ Members Supporting Members

Thank you for your support!

Community Organic Gardening

The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC) is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to the preservation and stewardship of natural and agricultural land in the seven county southeast Michigan region. Founded in 1988, the Conservancy has protected 2,500 acres in five of the counties.

The Conservancy Farm encompasses 99 acres in Superior township and established a community organic garden. It serves to demonstrate how people can grow a variety of healthy, locally grown food for their families.

The garden is managed by a committee of volunteer gardeners. The committee manages a yearly budget, provides tools and maintenance, water, potluck and workday activities, establishes garden priorities, and adopts the rules and guidelines for the operation of the garden.

Gardeners provide their own plants and labor.



Colleen Retherford and guest speaker Wendy Pellerito from Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy spoke to Gamma Alpha about community organic gardening.



Gamma Alpha Flower Fundraiser Spring 2012



Make checks payable to Gamma Alpha
Orders must be received by April 25th

Turn in all orders with payment (cash or check) at the April 25th meeting or mail your order and check to Amy Wainwright, 9830 Andover Dr., Belleville, MI 48111

Seller's Name:

Customer's Name:

Description	Color	Item Price	Units	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
10" Hanging Baskets						
Geraniums with Vinca vines	Red	\$15.00	each			
Geraniums with Vinca vines	Pink	\$15.00	each			
Moss Rose (mixed colors)	n/a	\$15.00	each			
Double Impatiens	Red	\$15.00	each			
Double Impatiens	Pink	\$15.00	each			
Double Impatiens	Purple	\$15.00	each			
Double Impatiens	White	\$15.00	each			
Million Bells (assorted colors)	n/a	\$15.00	each			
New Guineas	Red	\$15.00	each			
New Guineas	Pink	\$15.00	each			
New Guineas	Purple	\$15.00	each			
Larger Combination Hanging Baskets						
12" Combination Hanging Basket	n/a	\$16.50	each			
Fiber 14" Combination Hanging Basket	n/a	\$27.00	each			
Patio Planter						
12" Combination Patio Planter	n/a	\$22.00	each			
Hanging Posey Bags						
Begonias (mixed colors)		\$15.00	each			
Impatiens (mixed colors)		\$15.00	each			
4" Potted Flowers						
4" Potted Geraniums	Red	\$26.00	10 plants			
4" Potted Geraniums	Pink	\$26.00	10 plants			
4" Potted New Guineas	Purple	\$26.00	10 plants			
4" Potted New Guineas	Pink	\$26.00	10 plants			
					Total	

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Description	Color	Item Price	Units	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
4" Potted Vegetables						
Red Slicing Tomato		\$15.00	10 plants			
Green Sweet Bell Pepper		\$15.00	10 plants			
Greenery						
Vinca Vine Flats	n/a	\$28.00	18 plants			
Spikes Flats	n/a	\$28.00	18 plants			
Wave Petunias						
Wave Petunias	Blue	\$13.50	18 plants			
Wave Petunias	Purple	\$13.50	18 plants			
Dahlias						
Dwarf Dahlias Flats (mix)	n/a	\$13.00	18 plants			
Regular Flats						
Ageratum	Blue	\$12.00	48 plants			
Alyssum	White	\$12.00	48 plants			
Alyssum	Purple	\$12.00	48 plants			
Alyssum	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Coleus	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Dusty Miller		\$12.00	48 plants			
Impatiens	Red	\$12.00	48 plants			
Impatiens	White	\$12.00	48 plants			
Impatiens	Violet	\$12.00	48 plants			
Impatiens	Pink	\$12.00	48 plants			
Impatiens	Lavender	\$12.00	48 plants			
Impatiens	Lipstick	\$12.00	48 plants			
Impatiens	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Total						



Gamma Alpha Flower Fundraiser Spring 2012



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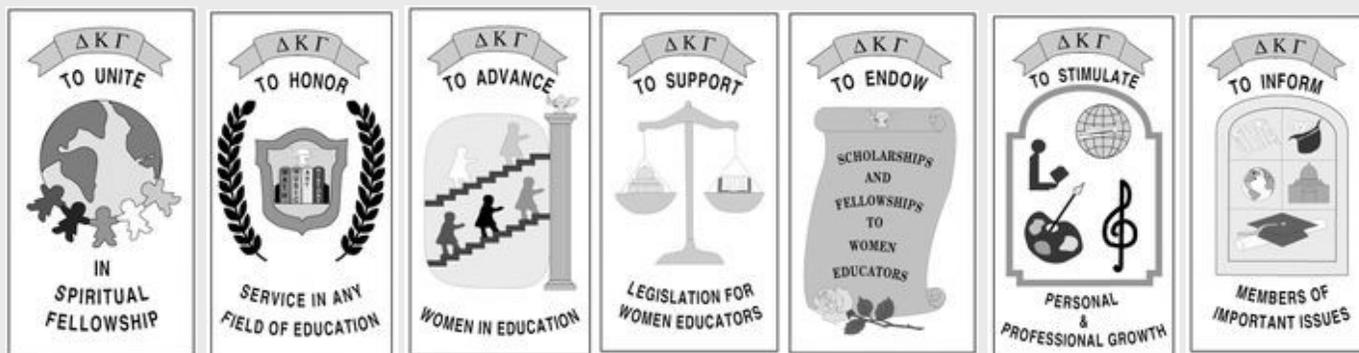
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Seller's Name:

Customer's Name:

Description	Color	Item	Units	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Regular Flats Continued						
Lobelia	Blue gr/lf	\$12.00	48 plants			
Lobelia	Blue dk/lf	\$12.00	48 plants			
Marigolds 8"-10"	Yellow	\$12.00	48 plants			
Marigolds 8"-10"	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Marigolds 12"- 14"	Yellow	\$12.00	48 plants			
Marigolds 12"- 14"	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Moss Rose	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Pansies Large Face	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Violas	Dp Blue	\$12.00	48 plants			
Begonia	Red/Dk leaf	\$12.00	48 plants			
Begonia	Pink Dk leaf	\$12.00	48 plants			
Begonia	Red Gr leaf	\$12.00	48 plants			
Begonia	Pink/Gr leaf	\$12.00	48 plants			
Begonia	Mixed /Gr leaf	\$12.00	48 plants			
Petunias	Red	\$12.00	48 plants			
Petunias	White	\$12.00	48 plants			
Petunias	Pink	\$12.00	48 plants			
Petunias	Purple	\$12.00	48 plants			
Petunias	Salmon	\$12.00	48 plants			
Petunias	Burgundy	\$12.00	48 plants			
Petunias	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Double Petunias	Purple/White	\$12.00	48 plants			
Double Petunias	Rose/White	\$12.00	48 plants			
Double Petunias	Mixed	\$12.00	48 plants			
Salvia	10"-12" Red					
Salvia	Blue Victoria					
Total						

Seven Purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



Gamma Alpha Executive Board & Committee Chairmen

Executive Board

President	Carol Anderson
1st VP/Program	Mary Jo Dreffs
2nd VP/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	Esther Loskowske Helen Mate
World Fellowships	Esther Loskowske
Yearbook/Newsletter	Jackie Smart
Sunshine	Donna Colaianne & Nancy Chiasson
Finance	Judi Fisher
Nominations	Amy Wainwright
Holiday Auction	Mary Jo Dreffs

Share a Tweet or Two on Twitter

Twitter is a micro-blogging tool usable on smartphones, iPads or tablets, laptops and desktop computers. To create an account, go to **Twitter.com**. Set up an account via the sign up link. Follow each of the steps provided. Establish your chosen username and password. Follow other people, companies and things of interest to you. *Twitter* users post a tweet that can only be 140 characters, including spaces and punctuation.

If using *Twitter* on a smartphone, you can stay up to date on news as it happens, be aware of what your friends are doing and share interesting happenings you experience. From the *Twitter* ABOUT page, “*Twitter* is a real-time information network.” CNN has a twitter feed along with most other broadcasting companies. Using *Twitter* is the fastest method for staying informed. Perhaps you should try it out.

The four administrators at Society Headquarters and the international president will be twitting between now and convention individually. Sign up and follow Dr. Jensi Souders @jensips; Corlea Plowman @corleaplowman; Phyllis Hickey @phyllisinaustin; Nita Scott @nitarscott; and Dr. Linda Eller @lseller. During convention follow #dkgcon to stay abreast of the happenings on location.

