



Serving Women Educators from Livonia and Wayne-Westland Schools

Member of Detroit Metro Coordinating Council

Volume 33 Issue 5

February/March 2013

Gamma Alpha Bulletin The G.A.B. "Let's Talk"

President's Message



To paraphrase former President John Kennedy (with a local flavor): "Ask not what DKG can do for you, but ask what you can do for DKG."

As members of DKG we enjoy:

Camaraderie with our fellow members.

Support that reaches out to us in our times of joy and sorrow.

Sounding boards for issues and concerns, both personal and professional.

Ways to serve others in our community, through our volunteer efforts.

Opportunities to push ourselves to step outside our comfort zones, to network with those we otherwise might never know and to accomplish that which we would never imagined ourselves doing.

All the things we do for DKG are

just reflective of who we are, and who we're continuing to become.

Accolades to all our members for:

Volunteering - whether in schools or for community organizations like Seedlings.

Supporting our service projects by shopping amazingly well; giving the girls at the Beverly House both a winter coat and hoodie; delivering the items to the girls.

Organizing Fundraisers - arranging the flower sale; storing flowers and purchasing them; working at the Holiday Auction; donating auction items; bringing guests and, of course, bidding on the wonderful contributions; making decorations; buying and selling tickets.

Involvement at the State Level - Serving as treasurer, registrar, presenters, presidors, officers, and committee members at state events such as Metro Council, conventions, conferences and workshops.

Participating at the Chapter Level - offering homes; suggestions for meetings; putting out our

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Meeting Info

See calendar for details



March 20

Mr. Mike's Grill
4:00pm

April 20

Metro Council Tea
Greenmead
10:00

May 3-5

State Convention
Bay City Doubletree

RSVP to Amy at

amosande@hotmail.com

OR

wainwrighta@wwcsd.net

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*



Mark your calendars now!



March 20, 2013

Place: Mr. Mike's Grill
6047 North Wayne Road in Westland

Time: Arrive 4:00-4:30
Meeting and speaker
4:30-5:30
Order dinner 5:30

Program: Estate Sales

Notes:

- Marie is the contact for the speaker.
- \$5.00 Service project donation to Beverly House Girls' Group Home



April 20, 2013

Metro Council 75th Celebration

Place: Greenmead Village
Alexander Blue House
20501 Newburgh Road in Livonia

Time: 11:00-2:00

Program: Tea to celebrate Alpha Iota State's 75th Birthday

Notes:

- Metro chapters will provide refreshments.
- Attendees will tour the one-room schoolhouse for the program.



May 3-5, 2013

Annual State Convention 2013
Bay City Doubletree Riverfront
Bay City, Michigan

May 15, 2013

Birthday Dinner

Place: East Side Mario's
31630 Plymouth Road in Livonia

Time: 4:30

Program: Honor Friend of Education,
Honor Retirees, Award Grant-in-Aid,
Recommitment Birthday Ceremony

Notes: (Pre-payment of \$20 will be necessary)



June 19, 2013

Executive Board & Planning Potluck

Place: Lynne Elsesser's home
20440 Lexington
Northville 48167

Time: 11:00

Program: Planning Meeting

Notes:

- All of our programs are planned by the membership. 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 Lynne's at 11:00. Bring your favorite potato, pasta, fruit, or green salad to pass.



July 24-27, 2013

Northeast Regional Convention Portland, Maine

Detroit Metro Coordinating Council
Cordially invites DKG members and guests to attend the
Metro Council Tea

to celebrate

Alpha Iota State's 75th Anniversary

April 20, 2013

10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

at

Greenmead Historical Village

"Alexander Blue House"

20501 Newburgh Road

Livonia, MI 48152

(Located south of Eight Mile Road on the west side of Newburgh Road)

English Tea Luncheon

Scones & Tea

Tea Sandwiches (meat, egg salad, cream cheeses, ripe olive & carrot spread)

Mini Quiche

Fruit

A selection of desserts donated by Metro Council Chapters

*Honor 2013 Chapter Women of Distinction
Ceremony to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of Alpha Iota State
Tour of A.J. Geer General Store & The Newburg One-Room School
Door Prizes*

Cost \$15

Make checks payable to Gamma Alpha and mail by March 31st, 2013, to

Cindy Dietz:

7329 Gilman

Westland, MI 48185

(734) 427-9399

P.S.

B.Y.O.T.A.S. (Bring Your Own Teacup and Saucer!)

January 16, 2013 Minutes



Executive Board Meeting

- Lynne Elsesser called the meeting to order at 3:40 at Mr. Mike's Restaurant in Westland.
- Board members reviewed the Chapter Strategic Plan under Lynne's direction. Goals for Membership, Communication, Program, Leadership and Technology were reviewed. Minor changes to wording were made in some areas. Some repetitions under Membership Goal were noted and deleted. Under Leadership Goal, Lynne proposed several items to add to Success Indicators. Members agreed with changes. Jackie Smart will re-write the Strategic Plan with the changes that were proposed.
- The Annual Report was completed. As with the Strategic Plan, some minor changes were made in wording. An addition was made to specify \$50.00 for the Schools for Africa .
- Meeting ended at 4:30.

Chapter Meeting

- Meeting began at 4:30 with a craft project directed by guests Pat Vartanian and Vilma DeMille. Lovely ribbon necklaces were made.
- At 5:10 Colleen Retherford led the chapter in the Initiation of two new members. Elizabeth Bunner is a transfer member from Indiana. Her daughter, Linda Dobrzeniecki, is new to the Society. Chapter members gave them a warm welcome.
- At 5:30, President Lynne Elsesser called the chapter business meeting to order.
- Treasurer Cindy Dietz announced that the chapter is sending \$75.00 to Alpha Iota State for the planned celebration of DKG's 75th anniversary at the upcoming state convention.
- Lynne announced that the chapter has invited

state president Olive Horning to the Detroit Metro Coordinating Council Tea to be held at Greenmead in Livonia on April 20. Gamma Alpha is planning the event. At the March chapter meeting, specific responsibilities will be discussed. All members are asked to volunteer their assistance. A photographer is needed for the event. Volunteers or suggestions?

- Amy Wainwright recommended that Ian Smart be awarded the chapter Friend of Education award. Colleen Retherford made a motion to that effect and Pam Emerson seconded. Motion passed.
- Lynne invited all members to attend the stated convention that will be held in Bay City on May 3-5.
- Members were reminded to send nominations to Donna Colaianne for scholarships and grant-in-aid. Non-members are eligible for scholarships and members are eligible for the grants.
- Lynne offered kudos to Jackie Smart for winning one of three International Educational Foundation Grants. Jackie received recognition for her Leadership Seminar on Bullying. She will present the seminar "Sticks and Stones" at the State Leadership Seminar on March 9 in Grand Blanc, MI.
- Judy Morante thanked members for donations to the Beverly House service project. Another collection will be made at the May meeting. She suggested that the chapter donate money for a manicure/pedicure outing for the girls. The suggestion was supported. Money will come from member donations and from the treasury. The chapter will invite the house mother of Beverly House to be a guest at the May meeting which is the chapter Birthday Dinner celebration to be held at Eastside Mario's on May 15.
- Amy Wainwright requests that members forward to her articles and photos for the chapter newsletter.
- Barb Broadley advised that all Sunshine Committee information should be forwarded to Ellen August.

(Minutes continued from page 4)

- Honorary Membership to Gamma Alpha will be offered to Debra Bondy, founder of Seedlings. Colleen moved and Amy seconded. Approved.
- Jackie reported that next year’s holiday auction will be at Laurel Manor on December 4. Date and details are tentative.
- Motion to adjourn was made by Helen Mate. Seconded by Mary Jo Dreffs. Meeting adjourned at 6:20.

Carol Anderson, Recording Secretary

(President’s Message continued from page 1)

newsletter and yearbook; sending Sunshine cards; bringing used books to the meetings; handling the sale.

You know, WE ARE AN AMAZING GROUP OF WOMEN!!!

Continue supporting each other, offering expertise, and sharing knowledge which will be our legacy. Marvel at what we have accomplished, are working on now and will continue doing, not only for ourselves but for DKG and the greater good!

Happy Birthday Ladies



February

- 2/19 Carol Vanden Brul
- 2/29 Marge Braun



March

- 3/11 Nancy Chiasson
- 3/13 Esther Loskowske

Member Profile: Carole Lower

Contributed by Judy Morante

Carole Lower has recently joined Delta Kappa Gamma. Carole taught in Van Buren and Dearborn; she retired in June, 2012. While teaching in Dearborn, Carole was recognized for the Five Year Implementation of the Arkansas Partnership in Comprehensive Reading Model. Carole continues to be involved with the Dearborn Schools as a volunteer tutor.



Carol earned her BA and Masters from Michigan State University and holds an educational specialist degree in reading from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The Lowers, Carole and husband Lynn, have lived in Northville since 1972; they have two children and five grandchildren ages 3 months—5 years. Now that Carole is retired she has time to pursue her many interests which include, playing bridge, antiquing, reading, spending time at her vacation home on Mullet Lake, and traveling. In addition Carol takes care of her 10 month old grandson 3 days a week. This winter Carole is on her way to Thailand and then to London. She says that her life is full and the weeks fly by.

Good Deed Challenge

Gamma Alpha members do great things to support our friends, families, churches, community organizations and , of course, schools! These are some of the things we have done in 2013.

Organization	Contribution	Member
Cancer fundraiser for friend	Donated time, money and resources to help a friend with her expenses for cancer treatment	Helen Mate
Friendship Circle	Participated in meetings to help make changes supporting education and supported yearly fundraiser.	Joanna Eiwen
Unwed mothers /St. Mary's of Wayne	Donated baby items (blankets, diapers, sleepers) for new families in need at Christmastime	Donna Colaianne
Little Dresses for Africa	Sewed 18 dresses	Carol Anderson
Michigan Avenue Homeless Shelter	Chaired collection of 70 gift bags for the children at Christmas	Judy Morante
Jackson Prison Project	Lead courses on meditation for stress reduction of prisoners	Colleen Retherford
St. Edith Parish	Lector	Marie Canzoneri
St Aidan's Church	Donated bags of clothing	Fran Saenz
A new Teacher	Donated new and used supplies, support and advice	Pam Emerson
Gleaners Food Bank	Donated canned goods	Esther Loskowske
3 Day Walk	Donated money to support Breast Cancer Research	Sandy Becher

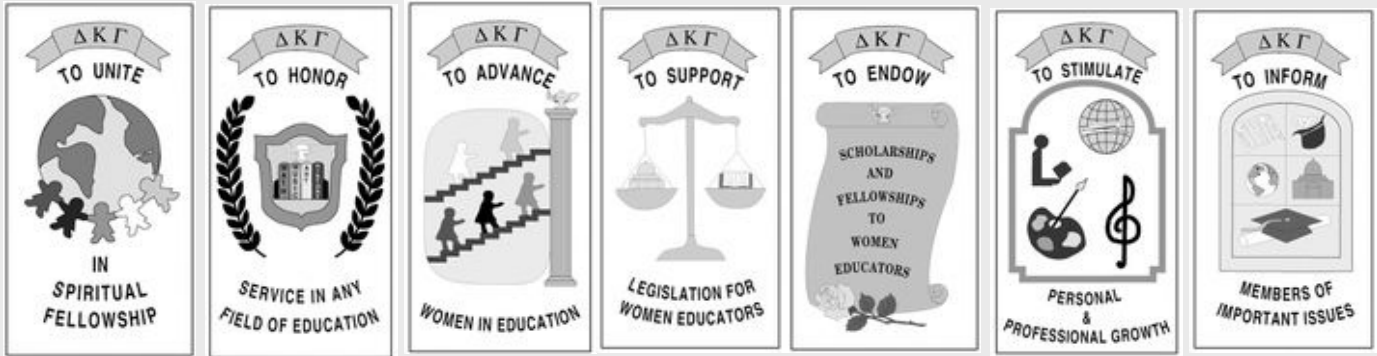
Northville Mothers' Club Life	Treasurer—fundraising for scholarships	Carole Lower
VVA	Donated items	Judi Fisher
Livonia Town Hall	Lecture 4 times per year, lead group donating money to Seedlings, Livonia Symphony & VAAL	Barbara Broadley
Family Resource Center	Donated toiletries	Amy Wainwright
American Legion Auxiliary	Decorate post for members, serve food, provide desserts for fundraiser	Cindy Dietz
Rotary	Raked leaves for a disabled homeowner	Jackie Smart

Our Favorites

Schools are the number one recipient of our time, money and resources, and will be featured later in a separate list, but there are many other causes near and dear to our hearts. Gamma Alpha members are active supporters of our religious communities and also favor organizations dedicated to helping the less fortunate—those who are hungry, sick, blind, homeless, etc. We are especially willing to donate our gently used items to organizations that will redistribute them to others in need. We recognize the abundance we have enjoyed in our lives and seek to share it with others in nearly every possible way.

Organization	Contribution	Member
Religious Organizations	Lector, archivist, donated money & clothing, taught meditation	Marie Canzoneri, Fran Saenz, Colleen Retherford, Donna Colaianne, Judy Morante
Salvation Army	Donated clothes, money, adopted a family at Christmas	Esther Loskowske, Fran Saenz, Amy Wainwright, Jackie Smart, Helen Mate
Purple Heart	Donated clothes and money	Carole Lower, Sandy Becher, Fran Saenz, Joanna Eiwen, Helen Mate
Seedlings	Bind books, sell Christmas cards, processed mailings, donated money	Judi Fisher, Jackie Smart, Barbara Broadley, Esther Loskowske
Make A Wish	Donated money	Donna Colaianne, Helen Mate, Joanna Eiwen

Seven Purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



Gamma Alpha Executive Board & Committee Chairmen

Executive Board

President	Lynne Elsesser
1st VP/Program	Mary Jo Dreffs
2nd VP/Membership	Colleen Retherford
Recording Secretary	Carol Anderson
Corresponding Sec.	Amy Wainwright
Treasurer	Cindy Dietz
Parliamentarian	Fran Saenz
Committees	
Service Projects	Judy Morante, Amy Wainwright
US Forum/Legislation	Pam Emerson
Grant-in-Aid	Donna Colaianne
Birthday Dinner	Helen Mate, Esther Loskowske, Jackie Smart
Vacation Auction	Cindy Dietz & Esther Loskowske
50/50 Raffles	Donna Colaianne & Joanna Eiwen
Yearbook	Jackie Smart
Newsletter	Amy Wainwright
Sunshine	Barbara Broadley, Ellen August
Finance	Grace Morgan, Judi Fisher, Cindy Dietz, Carol Anderson
Nominations	Carol Anderson, Carole Lower
Holiday Auction	Mary Jo Dreffs, Carol Palk, Debbie Novak, Marie Canzoneri, Ellen August, Jackie Smart



Member Profile: Marie Canzoneri

Contributed by Judy Morante

Marie Canzoneri is a veteran member of Delta Kappa Gamma and is a past president. Marie was an elementary teacher for 32 1/2 years. As an educator Marie innovated classroom art appreciation programs; in addition she taught Spanish in the elementary grades.



Marie holds degrees from Marygrove and Eastern Michigan University. Today family is most important to Marie; she has 3 children, 4 grandchildren, and 3 great grandsons. She serves as a lector at her church in Livonia. Marie continues to expand her horizons by traveling; she has been a travel agent since 1994. Marie is a faithful member of Gamma Alpha and we always look forward to seeing



Items Sought for "Purple" Basket

Be on the lookout for clever, interesting items to include in our chapter's donation to the World Fellowship Basket Auction. This year's theme: Purple. All things purple, lavender, lilac, and plum are welcome: soap, lotion, scarves, gloves, jam, books, pens, paper, plants, seeds, wine, violets, etc.