



Serving Women Educators from Livonia and Wayne-Westland Schools

Member of Detroit Metro Coordinating Council

Volume 36 Issue 4 May 2016

Gamma Alpha Bulletin The G.A.B. “Let’s Talk”



President’s Message

Greetings Gamma Alpha sisters,

As my second biennium draws to a close, I would like to tell you how honored I feel to have represented you as your President and how much I have enjoyed getting to know so many of you better. Thank you especially to my Executive Board, all the Committee Chairs and those who volunteered to work in varied capacities during the last four years. You have been more than generous in your contributions, donations and monetary support for our Gamma Alpha projects and those of Alpha Iota State.

We’re a busy group! In March, some of us put on our creative “hats” at the Bees’ Knees, glazing ceramic items or making mosaics. Many of us also attended the Metro Council Meeting the week before Convention where, besides the camaraderie of other DKG sisters and a great lunch, we had a great speaker who shared with us “a Care Partner’s Travel Guide: The Alzheimer’s Journey”.

We are also consistently one of the most active chapters at the state level with several of us serving as Committee Chairs and members as

well as State Officers. You would have been proud to see many of our members participating in an extremely creative skit honoring both Kalamazoo and our DKG Founders which, by the way, two GA sisters wrote and prepared the costuming.

At Convention, our Chapter Woman of Distinction was announced and our Outgoing and Incoming Presidents were introduced. Our sister, Christine Smith, was also honored at the White Rose Ceremony of Life and Remembrance Sunday morning. The 25% of our chapter who attended also helped at the Convention in various ways, from scribing to selling tickets, organizing, helping with various activities, etc.

I hope more of you can attend this type of event in the future. Conventions and Fall Conferences as well as the International and Regional Conventions help us appreciate our parent organization, broaden our own knowledge base and meet some amazing and talented women educators (and make some new friends and contacts).

Just recently, on April 22, several of us also participated in the “Kids for Afghan Kids” Empty Bowls fundraiser by donating and serving homemade soups as well as arranging for the donation of the bread provided.

Coming up on May 14th, we’ll be having a Baby Shower for some young women and their babies who could use support at this

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Meeting Info

See calendar for details



May 14

Baby Shower

Geneva Presbyterian Church
5835 Sheldon, Canton
12:00—2:00

May 18

Birthday Dinner

Courthouse Grill
41661 Plymouth Rd
Plymouth,
5:30—7:30

RSVP to

Amy Wright at
amosande@hotmail.com
(734) 740-4018

time in their lives. The information was emailed but if you have questions, please contact Judy Morante.

On May 18th, I hope most of you can attend the Birthday Dinner at the Courthouse Grill in Plymouth to welcome and install your new officers, honor our Chapter Woman of Distinction and Friend of Education as well as any retirees and any Grant-in-Aid recipients during another well-planned activity.

Speaking of planning, if you've enjoyed or benefitted from our meeting and activities, if you have suggestions as to ones for next year or for changes you feel would benefit the chapter, then make your voice heard by attending the planning meeting in June or by sending me the information; the date has been changed to Monday, June 27th so your new Presidents could attend. Time and location and other details for this potluck will be forthcoming.

Again, being with such a caring, thoughtful group of women has enriched my life, and I thank you so much. Your kindness, support and thoughtfulness to all of our sisters and their families who have suffered losses or illness is to be lauded. You care and act upon that caring. What can be more important than that?

Yours in Gamma Alpha,
Lynne

Happy Birthday Ladies!



May

- 5/4 Sandy Becher
- 5/4 Colleen Retherford
- 5/15 Carol Palk
- 5/20 Doris Prieskorn

Mark your calendars now!



May 14, 2016

Place: Geneva Presbyterian Church
5835 Sheldon
Canton, MI 48187
Time: 12:00—2:00
Program: Baby Shower
Bring: Clothing, diapers, toys, blankets, bibs
RSVP to Judy Morante
248-459-2743
judymorante@yahoo.com

May 18, 2016

Place: Courthouse Grille
41661 Plymouth Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
Time: 5:30-7:30
Program: Chapter Birthday Dinner

- Installation of New Officers
- Grant-in-Aid Presentation
- Honor Retirees
- Friend of Education Award
- Chapter Woman of Distinction
- Gamma Alpha Birthday Program
- Beverly Girls' Group Home Project

June 27 2016

Planning Meeting and Pot Luck
Place: Lynne Elsesser's home
20440 Lexington
Northville 48167
elsessl2@wowway.com
Time: 11:00 - 1:00 am
Program: Bring meeting ideas and dishes to pass.



**Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2016**



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Board members met at 4:30 at Cassel’s Restaurant.

President Lynne Elsesser provided the Biennial Report forms for discussion and completion. Members suggested that a place be added on the form to include donations besides scholarships. Additionally, a section to include Points of Pride was suggested. For our most popular event/activity, the group agreed on the Beverly House Girls project.

The group agreed to send a donation of \$70 to Schools for Africa in lieu of purchasing table favors for the holiday auction.

Nominees for the coming biennium include:

Co-presidents Colleen Retherford and Amy Wright

Vice-president Carole Lower

Recording Secretary Mary Jo Dreffs

Co-Corresponding Secretaries
Pam Husson and Amy Wright

Treasurer Cindy Dietz

Barb Broadley agreed to be parliamentarian, Lisa Austin to be Sunshine chair, and Mary Jo Dreffs to be nominations chair.

Corresponding Secretaries agreed that they would prepare one Annual Newsletter and maintain regular contact with members via e-mail.

The chapter currently has 40 members.



Gamma Alpha Chapter Meeting Minutes

The meeting at Cassel’s Restaurant was called to order by Lynne Elsesser at 5:30.

Because of a printing error on the agenda, Lynne read the minutes from the previous meeting. With a motion by Amy Wright and second by Judi Fisher, they were approved.

A moment of silence was held in memory of member Chris Smith. Lynne read her obituary.

Marie Canzoneri reported that she spoke to a person from the Linus Project and was informed that our blanket was given in donation.

Judy Morante informed us that she has acquired Groupon rates for the Beverly House girls to attend Skatin’ Station this Saturday.

She told us that the earlier request for tutor volunteers for the girls is now being met by students from Schoolcraft College.

She reminded us that we are helping to sponsor the girls to bowl at the Seedlings bowling fundraiser on March 12. Members are asked to assist.

She told us of a request by the Beverly House manager that we consider helping a similar home in Belleville for girls who are pregnant. After some discussion, the chapter voted to hold a shower for the young mothers. Grace Morgan placed the motion and Amy Wright seconded.

Lynne reported that the plans for the annual Kids for Afghan Kids soup dinner are incomplete but is expected to be in March. Some members will again volunteer.

The Metro Council luncheon will be on April 9 at same location as last year.

Esther Loskowske reported that she and Jackie had contacted Laurel Manor to investigate holding our chapter auction with a Sunday brunch. After some discussion and the request to change the name to Annual Gamma Alpha Auction (not holiday auction), Fran Saenz moved and Judi Fisher seconded to hold a Sunday Brunch auction on November 6, 2016. Motion carried.

Judi Fisher reported that the March 16 meeting will be held at the Bee’s Knees in Northville.

Members may select their piece of pottery to purchase. An additional charge of \$8 will be collected. Meeting will begin at 6:30. Minimum 10 must attend for this group rate.

Lynne requested that all members submit completed Biographical Forms to her.

Cindy Dietz reported that we made \$1800 at our holiday auction. Thanks for donations were given to Laura Elsesser, Sarah Elsesser, Nancy Geiger and Barb Broadley. A friend of Jackie Smart's also made a generous cash donation of \$100.

Grant-In-Aid forms are available from Donna Colaianne. Prospects are sought.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30. It was followed with a presentation by member Doris Prieskorn. She informed us about her retirement job as an educational consultant with a company she formed with another retired teacher. Her schedule of activity and level of energy showed us why she is NOT truly retired.

Submitted by

Carol Anderson
Recording Secretary

Empty Bowls Fundraiser for Kids 4 Afghan Kids



Judi Fisher and Judy Morante had the bread to accompany the yummy soups.

The "Crock Pot Crew" of Esther, Pam, Carol, and Fran made sure no one went hungry.



Lynne, Jackie & Judi were happy to show off their ladling skills

Baby Shower

Judy Morante says the more the merrier at the baby shower! **Feel free to bring a friend or two.** The girls will really appreciate the show of support.

Homemade gifts are welcome. Gift cards to Target would also be appreciated. Checks can be made out to "Gamma Alpha" and sent to Cindy. Judy will buy items with the donated money before the shower so the girls have plenty of gifts to open and enjoy.

Please join us on May 14th at Geneva Presbyterian Church in Canton at 5835 Sheldon from noon to 2:00 to support these young mothers.

Suggested items for the baby shower include: infant clothing (2 boys, 1 girl, 1 sex not yet known), diapers, baby toiletries & bath supplies, towels, wash clothes, blankets, bibs, etc.

RSVP to Judy Morante at 248-459-2743.

Taco Soup From Judy Morante

- 1lb. ground beef
- 1 onion
- 2 cans of tomatoes with chilies
- 1 can corn
- 1 can Brooks hot chili beans
- 1 envelope taco seasoning
- 1 envelope Hidden Valley Ranch

Brown onion and ground beef. Add tomatoes, corn and beans **WITHOUT** draining. Add taco and ranch seasonings. Simmer

Garnish with sour cream, cheese and tortilla strips

State Convention and Founders Day Fun



It's true!
Gamma
Alpha's have
all the fun!
Cindy was a
Viking.



Esther got to toot her
own horn—or at least,
she really had fun
blowing her little train
whistle.



Amy enjoyed her
beer hat....maybe
a little too much.



Judy modeled
her cute hat
celebrating
Kzoo's paper
industry.

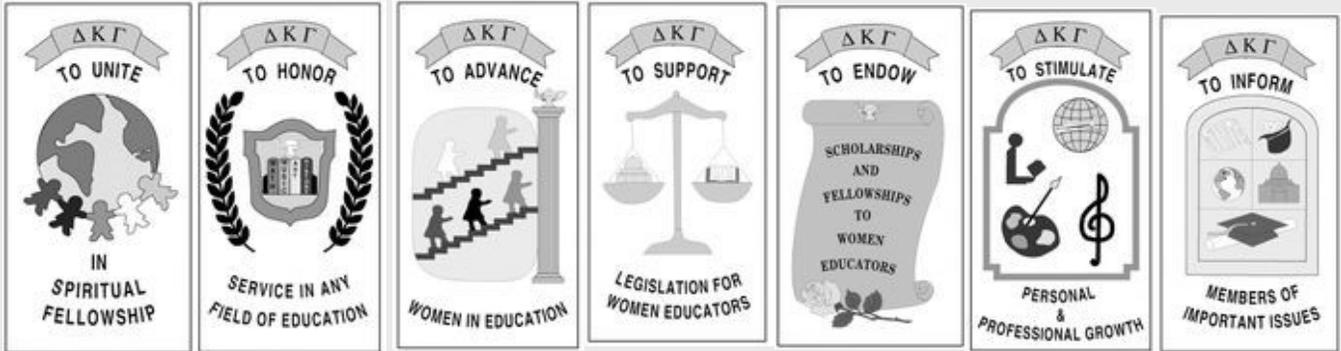


Grace, Carole, and Amy with Michigan
Teacher of the Year, Mr. Joseph.



Dr. Mona Hanna-
Attisha received the
Friend of Education
Award for her efforts
in the Flint water
crisis.

Seven Purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



Metro Council & Service Projects

Metro Council Luncheon



Carol, Esther, and Cindy at the Metro Council Luncheon on April 9th at Our Lady of Sorrows.

Carol Waarala delivered an excellent presentation, "A Caregiver's Travel Guide: The Alzheimer's Journey."

Beverly House

The girls from the Beverly House went roller skating at Skatin' Station in January. They also got to participate in the Seedlings Bowlathon in March, thanks to a grant from the Wilma Adams Fund.

