



Serving Women Educators from Livonia and Wayne-Westland Schools

Member of Detroit Metro Coordinating Council

Volume 37 Issue 1 September 2016

# Gamma Alpha Bulletin

## The G.A.B. “Let’s Talk”

### President’s Message

Gamma Alpha friends,

**Co-presidents** - Colleen and I are looking forward to starting our biennium as your co-presidents. Colleen will provide the leadership within our chapter. She will run the meetings, generate the agendas, and complete national and state forms. I will be our representative at state events and continue to write the newsletter, receive your meeting RSVPs, and send email updates.

**Newsletter** - Pam Husson joins me this year as the co-editor of the newsletter. She and I have started a new column in the Gamma Alpha Bulletin, Women Interested in New Experiences (W.I.N.E.). Each issue will feature a new or favorite place we have visited in Michigan.

**Service Projects** – Gamma Alpha will continue to support Seedlings Braille Books, Kids 4 Afghan Kids, and the Beverly House. Jackie applied for a \$300 Wilma Adams grant from the state to support our involvement with the Sumpter House for young mothers.

**Technology Tools** – Colleen and I quickly agreed we needed a way to share information. We decided to use the following tech tools:

Google Docs – this allows us to share files, instead of emailing changes back and forth

Facebook – using a Facebook group would let us share brief meeting reminders and information, as well as photos from recent events

Sign up Genius – this website allows chapter members to see what items other members have signed up to donate, for example donations to the Beverly House or dishes to pass at the next planning meeting

**Membership Initiative** – Our use of the state’s new membership initiative is in full swing. This summer we extended invitations to nine perspective members. We look forward to increasing our membership even more this year

**DKG +1** – Colleen and I decided to take the membership plan one step further to give us the opportunity to share our love for DKG with our friends, teachers and non-teachers alike. You are encouraged to bring a friend to our October meeting at Cassel’s. Your friend can have a nice evening with you and enjoy our program by Kathleen Washington about the Beverly and Sumpter House girls’ group homes and how we can support them.

DKG +1 promotes awareness of DKG and Gamma Alpha, which will help us to increase our membership and also build support for our events (Women in the Arts and our holiday auction) that are open to non-members.

Yours in Gamma Alpha,

Colleen & Amy

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### Coming Soon!

**Sept 22 (Thurs)**

**Vacation Auction**

Cassel’s Family Restaurant

43003 7 Mile Rd

Northville, MI 48167

**5:30—7:30**

**Oct 12 (Wed)**

**Beverly & Sumpter House**

Cassel’s Family Restaurant

**5:30—7:30**

**Oct 14—16**

**Women in the Arts**

Roscommon, MI

**Oct 21-22**

**Fall Workshop**

Livonia, MI

**RSVP to**

Amy Wright at

[amosande@hotmail.com](mailto:amosande@hotmail.com)

**(734) 740-4018**

## Gamma Alpha Bulletin

Mark your calendars now!



**Thursday September 22, 2016**

**Place:** Cassels

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:30

**Program:**

**Business meeting**

**Remember to pay your \$75 Dues (payable to Gamma Alpha)**

**Introduction of prospective members**

**Vacation Auction – Bring an item from your summer vacation for the cup auction**

**Donation for basket for Fall Conference (\$5 - \$10 suggested donation for gift card tree)**

**Sign up for helping at Fall Conference**

**Wednesday October 12, 2016**

**Place:** Cassels

**Time:** 5:30- 7:30

**Program:** Beverly House & Sumpter House

**DKG Plus 1 – bring a friend**

Business Meeting

Initiation of new members

Donation for basket for Fall Conference (\$5 - \$10 suggested donation for gift card tree)

Sign up for helping at Holiday Auction

Last day to pay for Holiday Auction

Speaker: Kathleen Washington of Beverly House & Sumpter House for Young Mothers



**October 14-16, 2016: Women in the Arts**

**Place:** Ralph McMullan Conf. Ctr, Higgins Lake Roscommon, MI (989)821-6200

**October 21-22, 2016: Alpha Iota Fall Conference**

**Place:** Holiday Inn Hotel Detroit at Laurel Park, Livonia

**Sunday November 6, 2016**

**Place:** Laurel Manor Banquet Center

**Time:** 1:00 - 5:00pm

**Program:** Holiday Auction/Luncheon

**Cost:** \$25



**Thursday December 8, 2016**

**Place:** Amy Wright's house  
35415 John Street  
Wayne, MI 48184  
(734) 740-4018

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:30

**Program:** Holiday Happy Hour  
White Elephant Gift Exchange

**Bring:** Appetizer or Beverage  
(See Sign up Genius List)



**Wednesday January 18, 2017**

**Place:** Cassels

**Time:** 4:30 - 5:30 Executive Board Meeting  
5:30 - 7:30 Dinner & Program

**Program:** Seedlings

**Thursday March 9, 2017**

**Place:** Cassels

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:30

**Program:**

My Voice My Choice - Advanced Directives  
Donation for Basket for Convention (\$5 - \$10 suggested donation for gift card tree)

**Saturday April 1, 2017**

**Metro Council Lunch**

**Place:** Our Lady of Sorrows

**Time:** 10:00 - 1:30

**Cost:** TBD (approx \$20)

**Program:** TBD



**May 5-7, 2017 State Convention**

**Place:** Double Tree by Hilton, Bay City Riverfront

**Thursday May 18, 2017**

**Place:** Court House Grill  
41661 Plymouth Rd  
Plymouth, MI

**Time:** 5:30 - 7:30

**Cost:** TBD (approx \$30)

**Program:** Chapter Birthday  
Dinner

Chapter Woman of Distinction

Friend of Education

Honor Retirees

Grant-in-aid Recipient

Initiation of new members (if needed)



**Monday June 19, 2017 Planning Meeting**

**Place:** Amy Wright's house  
35415 John Street  
Wayne, MI 48184

**Time:** 11:00 - 2:00

**Bring:** Dish to pass  
Program ideas



### Service Projects Update

This year we will continue to support the Beverly House girls' group home as well as the Sumpter House group home for young mothers.

Jackie has applied for a Wilma Adams grant in the amount of \$300.00 to help us with future projects for the Sumpter House.

We will continue to support Seedlings Braille Books and early career educators.

### 2016-2017 Dues

Please bring your checks payable to "Gamma Alpha" in the amount of \$75.00 to the September meeting, or checks can be mailed to

Cindy Dietz

7329 Gilman

Westland, MI 48185

### Women Interested in New Experiences (W. I. N. E.)

Pam Husson joins the Gamma Alpha Bulletin as co-editor with Amy Wright.

We would like to thank Sandhill Crane Vineyards, and their Veranda wine in the creation of Volume 37 Issue 1 of the newsletter.

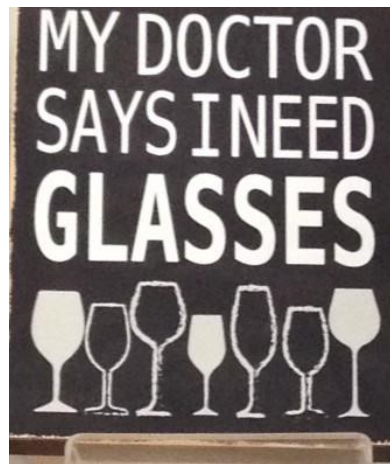
The vineyard is located near Jackson, at Exit 145 off 94—follow the blue winery signs.



"Made with estate grown grapes and local honey, this Frontenac mead is reminiscent of old-fashioned lazy summers spent on Grandma's front porch." Wine Label

A beautiful spot to stop for lunch and a wine tasting.

The wrap around deck allows the visitor breath taking views of the Sandhill Crane Vineyards.



A must on all shopping lists—reds, whites, sweet or dry  
A glass a day keeps the stress at bay.

Cheers,  
Pam & Amy

In our next issue, we will report on all the fun we had discovering Cantoro Italian Market in Livonia.

## WOMEN IN THE ARTS RETREAT

Friday, October 14– Sunday, October 16, 2016

Arrival 4:00 PM or later – 10:30 AM Sunday

Ralph McMullan Conference Center, Higgins Lake

Roscommon, Michigan

(989) 821 – 6200

### REGISTRATION FORM

**Deadline September 15, 2016**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate Preference \_\_\_\_\_

\$190.00 - Lodging at Straits and 4 meals

\$19.00 - Friday Night Dinner – 5:30 PM (optional Dinner hour over at 6:15 PM)

Total = \$209.00

**Single room, add \$40.00 = \$249.00 with dinner (\$230.00 without)**

**Total Remitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

In late September you will receive a communication listing activities and other pertinent information about the weekend.

Make check payable to: DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Send to: Nancy Higgins

11305 Island Lake Road

Dexter, MI 48130

734 426 2914 nhigs@aol.com

**Come join your Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters at the lovely Ralph McMullan Conference Center on beautiful North Higgins Lake for a relaxing weekend.**

**You do not need to be a member to come. Guests are welcome!**

**We will be staying in the Straits lodge, where you share a bathroom with 2 rooms and larger rooms. Some may stay at the traditional lodges.**

**The price is all inclusive and includes two nights lodging. 10/14 Check In**

**Optional Dinner for \$19.00  
10/15 Breakfast, Lunch &  
Dinner 10/16 Breakfast Only**

**Cancellation Date: September 30, 2016 to guarantee a full refund**

Would you be willing to present an activity? \_\_\_\_\_

If so what one? \_\_\_\_\_

## Volume 37 Issue 1

### Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2016

The dinner/meeting was held at The Courthouse Grille in Plymouth.

Lynne Elsesser called the meeting to order at 5:35.

Jackie led the group in an icebreaker activity using playing cards that provided us with interesting (at times amazing!) information about each other.

Lynne provided the group with highlights about the recent state convention. Five chapter members served as presidents, Jackie and Esther were presenters. Three chapter members worked to raise funds and several members assisted with the Saturday procession. Our sister, Chris Smith, was honored at the Celebration of Life. A Founders Day presentation planned by Jackie and Esther provided information and entertainment. Gamma Alpha was recognized for having a strong representation at the convention.

Lynne announced that the meeting to plan next year's schedule and activities will be on June 27 at 11:00 at her house. All members are strongly encouraged to attend and to bring ideas for speakers, programs and activities. Meetings next year will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays in order to accommodate members' other activities, classes, etc.

Judy Morante reported that the recent Service Project activity was a baby shower for teen mothers. Four young mothers and three babies were treated to lunch and gifts provided by Gamma Alpha. Two other young mothers were unable to attend but received gifts as well. Ten chapter members were in attendance to act as hostesses and babysitters. Ten more donated money to provide gifts. The young mothers expressed overwhelming gratitude. Special thanks to Judy for all the work on this activity.

Judy reported that the girls of Beverly House were treated to a rolling skating outing and an opportunity to bowl at the Seedlings fundraiser with the help of Gamma Alpha's generosity.

Donna Colainne presented this year's Grant-in-Aid award to Holly Na#####, a Kindergarten teacher at Roosevelt-McGrath School. Holly is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and EMU.

Lynne announced that this year's Friend of Education Award is given to Mark Dabiero, husband of Sarah Dabiero, for his many donations to our service projects.

Amy presented Sarah Dabiero with this year's Woman of Distinction Award. Sarah told us that her family now has a charity foundation devoted to helping others.

Colleen and Cindy presented Longevity Pins to the following members: Carol Holland, 35 years; Mary Jo Dreffs, 25 years; Carol Palk, Donna Colainne, and Judy Handley, 20 years.

Jackie, Esther and Helen led a ceremonial installation of officers for the upcoming two years. Amy Wright and Colleen Retherford will serve as Co-Presidents. Carole Lower will serve as Vice-president. Mary Jo Dreffs is the incoming Recording Secretary. Cindy Dietz continues as Treasurer. Barb Broadley will serve as Parliamentarian. Amy Wright and Pam Husson will share the responsibilities of correspondence with the newsletter.

Lynne acknowledged the 15 members celebrating birthdays in April, May, June, July and August.

Lynne, Jackie and Colleen led a touching memorial to Chris Smith. We were reminded of her 39 ½ years as a WWCS teacher, a mentor to new teachers, a very active union member and representative. Chris maintained her membership in Gamma Alpha after retiring to Florida. Her white rose was placed in a vase with the roses to commemorate other deceased members from Gamma Alpha.

Led by Jackie, Esther and Helen, several members reprised the amusing Founders Celebration skit they had presented in Kalamazoo at the state convention.

A 50-50 raffle was won by Ev Shuput who received \$68.

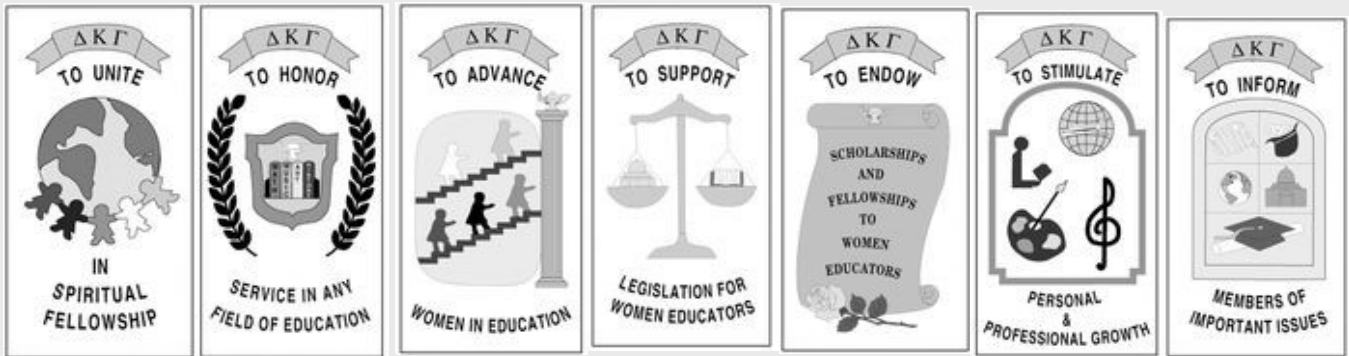
With a reminder to submit Recommendations for Membership to Carole Lower and a call for volunteers to register and help at the Fall Conference, Lynne adjourned the meeting at 7:52. Members stood to sing the DKG song and then enjoyed cupcakes made by Helen.

Submitted by Carol A. Anderson

Recording Secretary Gamma Alpha



## Seven Purposes of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



# Beloit College Mindset List

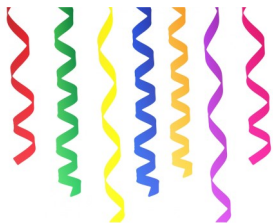
The Beloit College “Mindset List” has been released annually since 1998. It was created by Ron Nief, former Public Affairs Director, and Tom McBride, Humanities Professor, and distributed to the faculty to help them to better connect with the in-coming freshman class.

This list is for the incoming freshman for the class of 2020. Most of them were born in 1998.

Highlights from this year’s list include:

- They never heard Harry Caray try to sing during the seventh inning at Wrigley Field.
- They have never had to watch or listen to programs at a scheduled time.
- If you want to reach them, you’d better send a text—emails are oft ignored.
- They disagree with their parents as to which was the “first” *Star Wars* episode.
- They have never seen billboard ads for cigarettes.
- The once-feared Thalidomide has always been recognized as a cancer fighting drug.
- DreamWorks has always been making animated creatures heroic and loveable.
- They have no memory of Bob Dole promoting Viagra.

The complete list and additional commentary can be found at <http://www.beloit.edu/mindset>



### Happy Birthday Ladies! September

- 9/7 Nancy Geiger
- 9/9 Cindy Dietz
- 9/16 Carole Lower
- 9/19 Helen Mate
- 9/30 Jackie Smart

