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Advancing key women educators in the state of Maryland

DKG alpha beta STATE NEWS

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Northeast Regional Four States Joint Creative Arts Team Effort Leads to the Birth of a Vision

*Joan Wiggins, Alpha Beta State
President*

We agreed on the idea, talked on the phone to plan, visited the site, created the documents, received funding and prayed. Saturday, October 1, 2016 was here and the Arts Seminar began. It was a misty day in Delaware but we were ready to roll.

The arts seminar began as a vision by Maryland State Organization President, **Joan Wiggins**. She shared this vision of having three bordering states of Maryland assemble together for an event that would be fun and include those members in our states who usually do not attend state functions. At the 2015 Northeast Regional Conference training for State Presidents in Baltimore, Joan was sitting next to **Suzanne Parrott**, Delaware State Organization President. Joan informed Suzanne of her vision and Suzanne repeated it to **Dr. Helen Flagg**, District of Columbia State Organization President and to



Committee members Patty Simon, Christine Redman, Wendy Happel, Tracy Dusch, Joan Wiggins, Marjorie Chappel, Dr. Helen Flagg, and Suzanne Parrott collaborated successfully to bring about the first Northeast Regional Joint Creative Arts Seminar held on October 1, 2016 in Delaware.

Tracey Dusch, Pennsylvania State Organization President. They all agreed to go forward and the vision was born.

Without a model to use, Joan looked through state newsletters and talked with Tracey Dusch. Pennsylvania has held Arts Retreat in the

past and Tracey could provide many ideas to get us started. The committee began planning using free conference calls since we all lived quite a distance from each other.

As the planning began, additional DKG members from our states were added to the com-

mittee. **Marjorie Chappel**, secretary of the Delaware State Organization, **Wendy Happel** and **Christine Redman**, members of the Maryland State Organization joined in to assist in creating the Arts Retreat.

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President's Message

Rest, Rejuvenate, Re-energize

The Holidays are here and it is time to celebrate with family and friends. Alpha Beta State celebrated with friends with our First Joint Creative Arts Seminar and the Society Workshop in 2016. Seeing our DKG sisters gather in “genuine fellowship” while we used our creative talents and shared experiences is the essence of our organization. During the holiday season, use the time to rest, rejuvenate and re-energize yourself as we get ready for 2017 and our State Convention in Solomon’s Island. We are making plans to have some new activities at the convention that will excite you. It is going to be a busy time and we need “all hands on deck” to have another successful event. As we enter 2017, please remember: *Your friendships blesses me in our days of joy and laughter and in times of trouble or sadness. You dive headfirst into my heart. Thank you for being my friends.*

Have a prosperous New Year!

Joan Wiggins, State President



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Committee News

Being ABS's Next Treasurer is a Strategic Role Meant for You!

Brenda Patterson, Finance Committee

As a dedicated volunteer you can be a cornerstone in Alpha Beta State! Bring your expertise! Bring your desire to continue to learn! Share your passion to support Alpha Beta State's women in leadership in the state of Maryland and worldwide.

The benefits are numerous: You will meet wonderful people! Your geographical knowledge will improve as you work statewide. Your understanding of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International will deepen at all levels. Mileage reimbursements, stipends, attendance at Society workshops, the Northeast Regional Conference, and

the International Convention are only a sampling of the venues where you will shine. Past treasurers, committee members, executive officers, and International staff will have your back every step of the way. As a "numbers" person you will achieve a very high satisfaction of a job well-done.

Your Maryland Alpha Beta State sisters care and will strongly support you in the role of treasurer. Constant open lines of communication, sound policies and procedures, budget planning and budget use are a few of the mainstays of the position. The simplest things are sometimes the most respected.

Aren't you that member? Aren't you the member who could step into this strategic role? Collaborate and lead with Alpha Beta State! YOU are needed!

Get Ready to Vote on Amendments at the State Convention

Ann Frantz, Alpha Alpha

The Alpha Beta State Chapter of DKG will be holding the State Convention on April 21 to April 23 in Solomons Island, MD. During the state convention, members will be voting on proposed amendments to the ABS Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Joan Wiggins, in a recent e-mail to Chapter Presidents, asked members to review the current ABS Bylaws and Standing Rules and submit suggested amendments to her as soon as possible so they can be sent to the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee. Any ABS member, committee, chapter, or board may submit for consideration proposals for amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee. The Executive Committee will review the proposed amendments before approval by the president for publishing. Guidelines for amending ABS Bylaws and Standing Rules are as follows.

By Laws – "The Bylaws of Alpha Beta State may be amended at the state convention in the odd-numbered year by two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided notice of proposed amendments shall have been published at least 60 days before convening the convention. Proposed amendments shall be mailed to Alpha Beta State members no later than the February issue of the Alpha Beta State NEWS (Current Bylaws, Article XI Section A)."

Standing Rules – "The Standing Rules of Alpha Beta State may be amended or rescinded at the state convention (odd-numbered year) by a majority vote with notice, or by two-thirds (2/3) vote without prior notice. Published proposed amendments shall be mailed to Alpha Beta State members no later than the February issue of the Alpha Beta State NEWS (Current Standing Rules, Article XI Section B).

The current ABS Bylaws and Standing Rules are available for review at the state web site at <http://www.dkgmd.org> Chapter presidents also have a copy.

See you at the ABS Convention on April 21 – 23, 2017 in Solomons Island and be ready to cast your vote!

Don't Wait Too Long to Apply for Scholarships

Sandy Rodeheaver, Alpha Alpha

This year I was grateful and honored to be chosen to receive a state scholarship from Delta Kappa Gamma. I had learned of the DKG scholarship program from attending our local Alpha Alpha chapter meetings. I started pursuing my doctorate interests at a slow speed in the fall of 2012 with one course, unsure if I could indeed complete this endeavor. After taking a few classes to "whet" my appetite I dove into the full process of residency at West Virginia University and completed 60 credits before applying for the DKG scholarships. I am currently accepted in the doctoral program in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus on multiculturalism at WVU.

With this scholarship, I was able to relieve the financial stress that pursuing an advanced degree can encompass. At the moment I am writing this article, and with the help of this scholarship and the support of DKG, I have completed my comprehensive examinations and I am currently working on the prospectus for my dissertation. I actually completed my final core coursework this past summer, which included, in part, co-teaching two courses with the chairperson of my committee. The final part of my summer was spent in the completion of the comprehensive exams mentioned prior and has led to my prospectus writing of the first chapters of my dissertation. My current area of focus is rural Appalachia schools and minority populations focusing on the transnationally adopted Asians within this community.

I am not sure why I waited so long to apply for the scholarship opportunities from Delta Kappa Gamma. The process was simple and all the members I contacted in regard to the scholarship programs were both cordial and extremely helpful. I would encourage members of the Maryland chapters of DKG to pursue these opportunities that our sisterhood has availed to us. It has certainly made both a monetary impact for me but also, knowing and feeling the support of others throughout Maryland, a very personal impact.

Four State Creative Arts Seminar

October 1, 2016

Centennial United Methodist Church, 44
E. Mt. Vernon St., Smyrna, DE 19977

(Continued from page 1.)

Each state was given a specific responsibility in putting this event together. The committee felt that Delaware was the perfect location for the event and they researched venues for the Arts Retreat. As we planned, the subject of funding for the arts retreat was an issue that we needed to tackle. We didn't want the participants to pay for any materials for their workshop. Their registration would include only their meals. We also agreed that each state organization would not use any funds from their budgets for this project. Joan notified the past Northeast Regional Director, **Dr. Kay Clawson** and the past International President, **Dr. Lyn Schmid** of our plans and asked for suggestions for funding sources. They recommended that we apply for the **Lucile Cornetet Seminar Professional Development Award**. The committee knew that the deadline was approaching and we worked feverously to complete the application. Once we were awarded the funds, the intense planning took place.

On October 1, 84 DKG members and non-members assembled at Centennial United Methodist Church in Smyrna Delaware for our Arts Retreat/Seminar. We renamed it the Arts Seminar to reflect the wording of the funding from the Lucile Cornetet award. We had 13 workshops offered for the attendees. The workshops were: Book clubs, cake decorating, card making, choral singing & music theory, culinary sweets, dance, fall craft, finger painting, genealogy, mosaics, nature's angels, poetry and soulful harvest (memoir writing). With the exception of one instructor, all the presenters were DKG sisters. From Maryland, the presenters were **Christine Redman, Nu**; **Sally Clark, Nu**; **Carol Miller-Schultz, Pi**; **Wendy Happel, Mu** and **Joan Wiggins, Alpha Theta**. There were a few glitches during the day including having a workshop relocated because the original room was locked.



Christine Redman led a workshop on creating mosaics. She came prepared with frames, cut glass, tile pieces, and grout for this creative activity. It was messy, but fun!



Tina Riley had a workshop on Fall Crafts, which focused on creating colorful candle holders. Tracey Dusch demonstrated Cake Decorating. Wendy Happel showed how to make Nature's Angels using shells, carapace of crabs, and magnolia pods. There were also workshops on Genealogy, Poetry, Soulful Harvest, Book Club, Dance, Singing, Culinary Sweets, and Card Making.



Laura McClelland, Omicron, created an angel during the Nature's Angels workshop.



84 DKG sisters from Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland and Pennsylvania attended the Joint Creative Arts Seminar held at the Centennial United Methodist Church in Smyrna, Delaware. It was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship.



The seminar was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship. Sharon Darling and Jean Gray share some laughter.



Four workshops were held simultaneously at the Fellowship Hall. Dr. Barbara Parks Lee gave a workshop on Poetry.



State presidents Tracey Dusch (Pennsylvania), Joan Wiggins (Maryland), Dr. Helen Flagg (District of Columbia), and Suzanne Parrott (Delaware) were recognized for the success of the joint seminar. It was also an honor to have with us the Immediate Past President of DKG, Dr. Lyn Schmid (center).

We also needed to move the attendees out of the fellowship hall to set up for lunch. Despite that, we didn't have any glitches for the meals. The women of Centennial served a delightful continental breakfast and a scrumptious lunch. The attendees are still talking about it. **Christine Redman, Nu** topped off dessert with her delicious, DKG-inspired cupcakes.

During the workshops, the Fellowship Hall was filled with crafts, foods, family trees and writings. Dancing and singing were held in other rooms. We were all pleased that the past International President, **Dr. Lyn Schmid** attended and met many new sisters in our states. By the end of the day, all participants had a bag filled with their projects or papers. The committee presented the instructors with an award. The committee received medals and the participants all received certificates. The evaluations were reviewed and everyone unanimously enjoyed the day and would like to attend another event similar to this in the future. They remarked that it was a bit crowded in the Fellowship Hall and difficult at times to hear the instructor. Overall, the day was a success and the committee is planning to present a breakout session at the 2017 Northeast Regional Conference in Windsor, Ontario about planning a Joint Arts Seminar.

Society Workshop

Sharon Darling, Chair, Communications Committee

November 5, 2016

Ashton United Methodist Church
Ashton, MD

The Alpha Beta State Society Workshop was one that I am sure many will not forget. Thanks to *Amanda Ensor* of Nu chapter, we were very fortunate to have her aunt, *Ellie von Wellsheim* share with us **The MoonCatcher Project**.



Ellie is the founder of this project. Even though we had technological difficulties during the presentation, I think we all realized how fortunate we are to have so many resources available to us. Who would have thought that a monthly period can still stop girls from coming to school? And yet there are still areas in the world where girls have no access to feminine hygiene products, which impacts their school attendance. The MoonCatcher Project provides washable, reusable menstrual pads that can be worn without underwear. These are given in the form of kits placed together in a small bag. These kits make it possible for these girls to come to school even during their periods. Being able to go to school regularly gives these girls a better chance of succeeding in school and so their lives are improved. Girls who finish school marry later, have fewer children, and are able to help themselves and their families financially.

During one of the breakout sessions, many sisters had the opportunity to help make these “mooncatcher” kits. They worked on various aspects of constructing these pads with directions given by Ellie and her sister, Trish Rhodes. Some participants sewed, some cut, some folded, and some ironed. Everyone worked very diligently on this project.



Let's make some mooncatchers!



Many were also very determined about finding a way to keep the project going. Nu Chapter plans to join the project. If you would like more information, visit their website at <http://www.mooncatcher.org>



Sharing Your Favorite Book

Suzi Plaut, Alpha Gamma, did an outstanding job of leading this session. Participants were asked to share their book or books without showing it as listeners try to guess the title. Some were easy and many were not. Many heard about some new books—both children and adult ones. Some just shared a favorite author. The list of books is included in this newsletter. Thank you, Suzi!



Cardio-Vascular and Flexibility Exercise for Everyday Living

Sally Nazelrod, Xi, had everyone actively involved in her session. First she went over the health and skill-related components of fitness. She did several games such as a ball toss and passing the hoop from one to another in a circle. Then she had stations around the room—scarf juggling, wall sitting, pushing against the wall, and balancing yourself. These were all for flexibility and coordination. As one participant said, “I am not an exercise person, but she made it fun.” Many thanks to you, Sally!



Betty filled the hall with her beautiful music.



Chapter News

Eta Chapter Practices Wellness

Kelly Griffin, Eta Chapter President

Eta Chapter's theme this year is *Savoring Sanity with Sisterhood*. The chapter does an activity related to wellness at each business meeting. During the September meeting, Tara Linaburg was invited to speak to the group about the importance of exercise. Ms. Linaburg is the owner of Transitions, a fitness center for women located at LaVale, MD.

Following the meeting, sisters changed into their tennis shoes and set out on a two mile leisurely stroll down National Highway. We talked the whole way! Every so often, we paused to change walking partners so that we had the chance to talk to everyone.



Eta sisters takes a stroll after a business meeting as part of their wellness endeavor.

Omega Enjoyed Greek Mythology

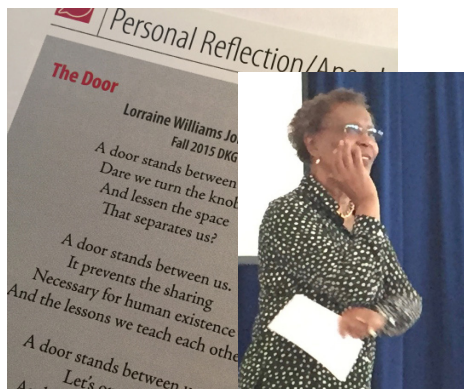
Jean Marie Hofstetter, Omega Chapter President

What a great meeting for Omega on Wednesday, October 28. Thirteen of our members were able to join us for the 2nd meeting of the year. Our very own **Donna Barnes** was an excellent guest speaker who showed her love of Greek Mythology and made us laugh about the Greek gods and goddesses. Thanks to **Marsha Stewart** (and husband Kenny), **Betty Hepler** and **Nancy Henkelman** for helping with our refreshments. Congratulations to our door prize winner, **Bev Eanes** who received an ABS rose bracelet!



Lorraine Johnson's Poem Published

Minnie Young, State Editor



Lorraine Williams Johnson's poem, **The Door**, has been published in the 2016 Volume 83-2 issue of The Delta Kappa Gamma Collegial Exchange. **The Door** is an inspiring poem on bridging gaps and finding unity among individuals. Look for it on page 38 of the Collegial Exchange.

Congratulations, Lorraine!

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

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Important Dates

**Educational Foundation
 Project Grant Applications
 Due January 3, 2017**

**International Scholarship
 Applications
 Due February 1, 2017**
 Log in at www.dkg.org for details.

April 21 -23, 2017
Alpha Beta State Convention
Holiday Inn, Solomon's Island
 More information will be coming.



BOOKS!

Looking for a good book? Here are the books shared during the November society workshop.

Adult Books

Listening With Your Heart by Wayne Peate, MD (Native American, good inspirational quotes to start meetings)

Me Before You, After You by Jo Jo Moyes
Of Thee I Sing: Love Letters to My Daughters by Barack Obama
Our Children Can Soar: A Celebration of Rosa, Barack & the Pioneers of Change by Michelle Cook
Pride and Prejudice, Sense & Sensibility by Jane Austen

Revenge of the Wrought-Iron Flamings, Die Like An

Eagle, Lord Of Wings by Donna Andrews
The Amber Room, The Third Secret, The Thirteenth Colony, Captain Kidd

by Steve Barry (historical spy novels)
The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up by Marie Kondo (Perfect for spring cleaning)

The Lilac Girls (Holocaust from perspective of three women) by Martha Hall Kelly
The People Could Fly - an anthology edited by Virginia Hamilton
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Kitchen House, Glory Over Everything by Kathleen Grissom
 Monk books by Anne Perry (English murder mystery series)
Winter Street by Elin Hilderbrand

Children's Books

A Mother for Choco by Keiko Kasza
Are You My Mother? By PD Eastman
All American Boys (Maryland One Book) by Jason Reynolds & Brendan Kiely



A Weed Is a Flower by Aliki
Babar, Babar at the Museum by Jean de Braneouf
Beneath the Mimosa Tree, The Baseball Girl by Stephanie Verni
Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner
Did You Carry The Flag Today, Charley?

by Rebecca Caudill
Does the Kangaroo Have a Mother, Too? By Eric Carle
Don't Pet the Moose by Thomas Palardy
Fancy Nancy series by Jane O'Connor and Robin Preiss Glasser
Follow My Leader (about blindness) by James B Garfield
Harry Potter by JK Rowling
Heidi by Johanna Spyri
Hiccups for Elephants by James Preller
I Survived Series (Hurricane Katrina, San Francisco Earthquake) by Lauren Tarshis
In Beane's Backyard by Brandon Beene
Little House series by Laura Ingalls Wilder
Night by Elie Wiesel
Poky Little Puppy by Janette Sebring Lowrey
The Button Box by

Margarette S Reid
The Jolly Postman (Other People's Letters) by Janet & Allan Ahlberg
The Mitten, The Christmas Treasury by Jan Brett
The Way I Feel by Janan Cain
'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving by Dav Pilkey
Ungle Wiggily by Howard Garis
We're Going on A Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury
Whose House Is This? by Charles Reasoner
Wild Wings by Gill Lewis (Young Adult wholesome)
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 Michael Connelly
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 Robert Galbraith
 Patricia Polacco
 Nora Roberts