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Advancing key women educators in the Maryland State

DKG alpha beta STATE NEWS

November Society Workshop

Drumming Up Membership

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Jean Cupani and her daughter Christina Jarvi, both of Nu Chapter, led an exceptional workshop on strategically planning to increase membership within their chapter. Everyone who attended the workshop was able to walk away with concrete ideas on how to go about getting the word out about DKG and to encourage teachers young and old to realize that our society has much to offer.

Nu Chapter engaged in a **3-Step Approach**.

1. Strategically planning for increasing inter-generational membership
2. Adding inter-generational members
3. Engaging and retaining members

Nu Chapter gathered a team of members to form a committee. This team first wanted to understand their prospective population of new members. They took a look at their chapter's own strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. This included analyzing a survey of member and non-member educators. Next the committee devised a process of recruiting and nominating new members. They contacted teachers who had



been nominated for teacher of the year. They also sent fliers to schools and turned to Nu members for recommendations.

The committee drafted an 'interest' letter inviting recommended teachers to a social. They also sent "Save the Date" cards and email reminders to those teachers. At the **Informational Gals' Night Out** they described the purposes of the society and went over ways that DKG membership could be meaningful for them and ways they could become involved. The committee shared testimonials and answered questions. Attendees who were interested were invited to join DKG. Following acceptances to formal invitations, 14 new members were initiated which represented a

34% increase in Nu's overall membership!

The final step is the challenge of engaging and retaining members. One practice that was begun was to set up a **buddy/mentor** between a current member and a new member.

Jean and Christina explained how they used resources from the DKG website. They encouraged anyone who had questions to contact them and they would be happy to share their ideas and resources with any chapter.

Congratulations to Nu Chapter on a job well-done and thank you to Jean and Christina for a successful workshop.

President's Message

Renewed Rhythms

Alpha Beta State sisters keep their beats moving in the direction of "building relationships."



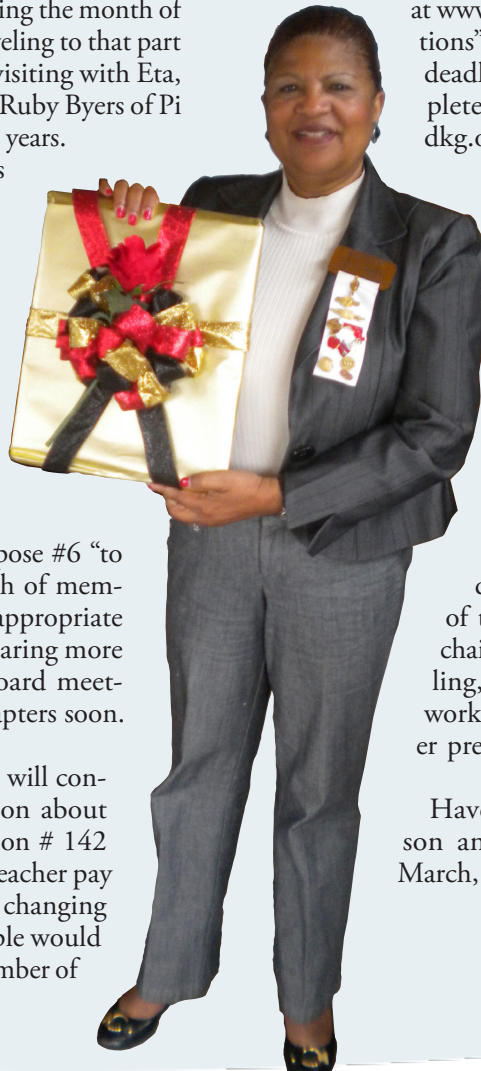
Where does our rhythm stand so far in Alpha Beta State? Are you as an individual or as a member of a state committee finding that unique rhythm to bring about a new motivation for our state organization? I observed that Alpha Beta State is keeping their beats moving in the direction of "building relationships." Our Leadership Development Committee has begun making phone calls to chapter members to engage in conversation about their DKG experiences. I hope that our members enjoy hearing from our leadership team but also we want them to know that we still care about each and every sister in Alpha Beta State. We know that you were excited to become a member at your initiation service and we want to recapture that feeling for you. Please know that we listen to your suggestions, your ideas and your comments during these phone calls.

You are the heart of our organization. I received a renewed spirit after visiting my Western Maryland sisters during the month of October. The beautiful scenery that one sees traveling to that part of Maryland was so captivating and I enjoyed visiting with Eta, Alpha Alpha and Pi chapters. I met 93 year old Ruby Byers of Pi Chapter who has been a member of DKG for 40 years. Meeting Ruby and the fellowship with the sisters was rewarding and the ladies made my visit so worthwhile. They are "Captivating the Rhythm of Alpha Beta State" by their service projects of collecting school supplies, making goodie bags for First Year teachers, preparing teacher appreciation treat bags, exceeding their goal for World Fellowship collections and making plans for a Holiday Scholarship Auction. The ladies are excited about the possibilities of having an Executive Board meeting in the Western Maryland area in the near future. Our sisters in Western Maryland demonstrate Purpose #6 "to stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of actions". These chapters will be sharing more of their projects to the state at Executive Board meetings. I look forward to visiting more ABS chapters soon.

We stay connected with our members and I will continue to keep you connected with information about educational issues. The U.S. Forum Connection # 142 for October, 2015 reports a possible source of teacher pay increases. "There is currently discussion about changing prison sentencing guidelines so that fewer people would be jailed. This would save money because the number of

prison employees would be reduced as well as the cost of housing, feeding, etc. prisoners. A proposal by the U.S. Department of Education is that states should consider using the money saved due to decreased numbers of prisoners to increase teacher salaries." This information is from the United State Forum of DKG. If you wish to subscribe to the FREE newsletter, send a request to the editor- Angela O. Bedenbaugh at Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com.

I am inviting each of you to consider sharing your talents at the 2016 International Convention in Nashville, Tennessee, by applying to be a Breakout Session Presenter. We have so much talent in our State that I don't want this opportunity to pass you by. Speakers will be sought to address specific content for one of four strands: Communication/Technology; Educational Excellence; Empowering Women; and Global Awareness. Proposal forms are available online at www.dkg.org under "Events" and "Conventions". The postmark/electronic submission deadline is Feb. 1, 2016. Return the completed forms to Dr. Lyn Schmid (lynns@dkg.org) or mail to Society Headquarters.



Finally, the Society Workshop presented by the Educational Excellence Committee on Nov. 7 gave all the participants a chance to make either a dynamic clay toy soldier, become more familiar in a unique way with the seven purposes or how to increase intergenerational membership in your chapter. You will read about these presentations in more detail in the newsletter but it was a great way to spend a Saturday with our DKG sisters. I am proud of the Educational Excellence committee chaired by First Vice President, Sharon Darling, Nu for organizing such an inspiring workshop. I hope that the presenters consider presenting these workshops in Nashville.

Have a blessed and restful holiday season and I look forward to seeing you in March, 2016 at the Executive Board meeting.

Joan Wiggins, State President

Congratulations to Our Outstanding Sisters!

Gerri Award Presented to Bonnie Brose

Joan Wiggins, Alpha Beta State President

We send our congratulations to **Bonnie Brose, Theta**, who received the Gerri Award from the **Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame** for her extraordinary humanitarian community service. She received this award in October 2015. The Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame (MSCHF) Gerri Award is the geriatric “Nobel Prize”. In addition, **Henrietta Lease, Alpha Alpha**, was inducted into the 2015 MSCHF on October 22, 2015.

Created in 1987, the MSCHF is a private, all volunteer organization. Its sole purpose is to recognize and



Bonnie Brose with the Maryland Senior Citizens Hall of Fame President Thomas Kline

honor senior citizens who are at least 65 years of age. You can qualify to receive this award if you live in Maryland and have performed outstanding service in your community. We are truly honored to have two exceptional DKG sisters as recipients of this recognition.

Mary Jane Foster Honored with a 50-Year Pin

Sally Nazelrod, Xi Chapter

At its September meeting, Xi chapter celebrated the 50th anniversary of Mary Jane Foster as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Mary Jane joined Xi on April 10, 1965.

Mary Jane Scott Foster was born in Gettysburg, PA on September 6th. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from St. Joseph College at Emmittsburg, MD. She earned her Master's Equivalency in Guidance and Counseling from Loyola College in Baltimore, MD.

Her teaching career was spent in Baltimore City Public School System where she taught English and served as a Guidance Counselor. She taught at Gwynne Falls Park Junior High, Clifton Park Junior High, and Northern Parkway Junior High. She finished her career at Herring Run Junior High as Department Head of English.



Maggie Brown, Xi Membership Chair, presented Mary Jane with the 50 year pin.

Mary Jane was initiated into Xi Chapter on April 10, 1965. She held the offices of First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary for four years, and Treasurer for six years. She also served on the Ways and Means, World Fellowship and Nominating Committees. She was also the Yearbook Directory Chair for Alpha Beta State.

Mary Jane enjoys reading, crewel, and gardening.

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November Society Workshop

Soldiers to the Beat of the Drum

Sharon Hilty, Delta Chapter and Educational Excellence Committee Member

Thank you Mary Lee Makinen and Pat Johnson for sharing another of your craft activities. Your directions, guidance and encouragement were much appreciated. It was a fun creative time with other ABS Sisters. We always enjoy having something we created to take back to Chapter meetings, and to share with our family and friends.

Mary Lee mlmakinen@comcast.net will be happy to share the instructions for this project, and we will try to get them posted online at dkgmd.org

Will you be an Alpha Beta State Soldier-Member and March to the Rhythm this Biennium? Alpha Beta State needs ALL of our members to share their voice, time, and energy.



Clay pots waiting to be transformed.



Mary demonstrates the steps.



Transformation begins.



The finished soldiers come marching in!

"Happy Educators" Reinforce the Seven Purposes of DKG

Becky Taylor, Beta Chapter and Educational Excellence Committee Member

Ann Campbell and Christine Redman, both members of Nu Chapter, presented a workshop entitled "Beat of the DKG Drum for 85 Years" on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at our ABS Society Workshop. They used three different activities to help us to review and to reinforce the Seven Purposes of DKG.

First, they creatively designed a mnemonic device to remember the seven purposes – ***Happy Educators Usually See Important Situations.***

Next, working with a partner, we were given a bag of items, and we matched the objects with the goal. For example, a red life saver indicated support.

A third activity had the members paired with a partner and a goal was given to each group. We were asked to draw a picture of our goal and write ideas that could be generated from our goal.

Finally, Ann and Christine took the words to the song "If you're happy and you know it," and wrote a new version using the seven goals which we all sang with enthusiasm. Pictures were taken with the entire group showing their drawings and ideas. It was a fast-paced and fun workshop that everyone seemed to enjoy.



Society Workshop Kudos

Sharon Darling, Nu Chapter, First VP

Many thanks to the presenters: Ann Campbell, Christine Redman, Jean Capani, Christina Jarvi, all from Nu Chapter, and also Mary Makinen, Alpha Delta and our executive secretary. Everyone returned home with something they can use in their own chapter. Also thanks to Becky Taylor, Beta; Sharon Hilty, Delta; and Gwen Cooley, Delta, for sharing information about each session in this newsletter. LaTanya Eggleston, Rho, many thanks for taking pictures. Information that was gathered about generational differences will be shared in a later newsletter.

Thanks also go to the sisters who attended.



DKG Northeast Regional: Four States Joint Creative Arts Seminar



The State Presidents of Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia present the
1st Joint Creative Arts Seminar
Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016
8:15am - 4:15pm
Delaware

We are looking for presenters in the areas of visual & performing arts, crafts, dance, music and other areas to showcase the unique talents of our DKG sisters. Tentative plans include having participants choose up to four workshops of one hour each, serving a light continental breakfast & full lunch, and promoting camaraderie among women educators beyond their own states and cities.

If you have a talent to share, please contact Joan Wiggins, Alpha Theta- joan633@comcast.net or Christine Redman, Nu – credman@tcps.k12.md.us with a short description of your workshop and materials needed. More details will be shared at a later time.

Please save the date!

Alpha Beta State Scholarship Recipients 2015



Martha Barwick is Investigating the Impact of Professional Development

English 10 teachers and students will be the first to experience digital conversion in Harford County Public Schools. This initiative has been funded through a Digital Learning Innovation Grant provided through the Maryland Governor's Office. With grant funding and support through the Office of Technology and the Office of English Language Arts, (a) a tablet device will be provided for each teacher, (b) student tablets will be funded at a ratio of one tablet for every nine students, (c) face-to-face professional development days will be funded, and (d) a digital interactive textbook will be purchased for each student and teacher. With these resources available, the goal is that each English teacher will access digital curriculum and deliver instruction through a learning management system, integrate mobile tablet devices into teaching and learn-

ing, and utilize digital content to enhance the curriculum. These significant shifts in instruction will require extensive professional development. However, there are limited opportunities to engage teachers in face-to-face professional development and provide continued opportunities for ongoing conversation, questions, and support as teachers implement new devices and a digital curriculum.

The scholarship that I received from Alpha Beta State will support the course work of the Doctorate of Education program at Johns Hopkins University necessary for implementation of a research study. The purpose of my research study is to investigate the impact of professional development structured as an online Community of Inquiry on the learning and classroom practice of the English 10 teachers as they create digital learning environments.



Suzanne Wilburn Earned a Doctoral Degree in Education

For the last three years I have had the honor of receiving the Anne Matthews state scholarship from Delta Kappa Gamma. My quest for this scholarship began as I learned about the availability of four state scholarships at the Alpha Alpha chapter meeting. I had been accepted into the inaugural cohort of the doctoral program at Frostburg State University. The program requires students to be enrolled in courses year round. The first year of the program was 21 hours of coursework. The second year was 24 hours of coursework, and the final year was 15 hours, including the defense of the dissertation. I knew that receiving this scholarship would ease my financial burden. Initially, one of my biggest concerns was: Would I be able to complete the application requirements in time to have an opportunity to be considered for a scholarship?

Upon receiving the scholarship information, I found that the application process was not as demanding as I envisioned. I completed my application, wrote a

letter of intent, asked my principal for a letter of recommendation, and asked my chapter president for a letter of recommendation. Coming from a rural county, like Garrett County, I was concerned about competition from urban and suburban areas across the state. I felt pride representing my chapter at the state convention.

I have now completed the doctoral program. I graduated from Frostburg State University with the first group of graduates receiving their Ed.D. As I look back at the highs that I experienced working my way through the program, one of them was being named a recipient of the Anne Matthews scholarship. Delta Kappa Gamma offers four of these scholarships, which provide members with a wonderful opportunity to advance their education and pursue their educational goals. I would encourage any DKG member who is doing graduate work to consider applying for these scholarships. The time investment is worth the reward.



Minnie Ladores-Young attended a Leadership Academy

In 2014, Dr. Emma Savage-Davis, immediate past president of the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE), nominated me to attend the ATE Leadership Academy held in February 2015 in Phoenix, AZ. It was an honor to be chosen as this was an excellent opportunity to improve my own leadership skills. However, Arizona is quite far from Maryland, and although the academy was sponsored, it did not cover fare and lodging. While wonder-

ing how I could get to Phoenix, I read on the Alpha Beta State News that scholarships were still available. I applied and most fortunately received a scholarship!

So off to Phoenix I went. The morning session was about opportunities for leadership. We listened to a few professors share about how they found themselves in leadership positions and how they managed it. It was all very encouraging. Dr. Jane McCarthy and Ms. Laura Tsosie presented

on "The Broken Circle of Learning: American Indian Education Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." Then we went to visit the Heard Museum. I have studied about the American Indian experience in graduate school, but it is different when one comes closer in context. Part of the Heard Museum was an older building used as a boarding school. On one wall, the following text was written: "I remember it was October they came to get me. My mother started to cry,

'Her? She's just a little girl! You can't take her.' My mother put her best shawl on me." I took a photo of it and it still brings tears to my eyes. Imagine how they felt then!

It was overall an eye-opening experience. Leadership is about stepping up to do the right thing and to make our part of the world a little better, no matter how slightly. I thank the DKG Alpha Beta State Scholarship for helping make it a possibility.



LaTanya Eggleston Took an On Course II Workshop

Since President Obama's 2009 announcement of the 2020 Student Success Initiative, Anne Arundel Community College has been dedicated to doubling the number of degrees and certificates earned within ten years.

My college's support of that initiative prompted educators and leaders to enhance learning opportunities for our students. One of my ongoing goals is to seek professional development opportunities that promote strategies to encourage students' success in and out of the classroom.

This year's award of the Alpha Beta State's Founders Scholarship supported my professional goal to attend a local On Course II Workshop where professionals learn strategies that empower students to be active learners. A few themes for best practices include (but not limited to):

- Emotional Intelligence
- Getting on Course
- Interdependence
- Self-Awareness

All these workshop topics are designed to introduce practical methods to educators who want to help students be more learner-centered. For more information on this workshop, feel free to visit: <http://oncourseworkshop.com> or contact me for any questions.

Thank you, again, to the Scholarship Committee and to the Alpha Beta State Organization for this support!

The Search is On for the a Review Committee Member

Dr. Annette Blake, Nomination Committee

This communication is to inform all Alpha Beta State members of the search for ONE (1) Member for the Review Committee/Executive Secretary (3 year term)*.

The nomination process is as follows:

- October 2015 an announcement will be posted on the state website
- November 2015 an announcement will be posted in the state newsletter to inform the general membership
- February 2016 a slate and motion will be prepared and sent to the State President
- March 2016 a ballot will be prepared for ONE(1) member for the Review Committee/Executive Secretary election at the March State Executive Board meeting.

*The responsibilities and duties are stated in our state bylaws.

Finance Committee will Need a New Treasurer in 2017

The Alpha Beta State Treasurer has informed the Finance Committee of her retirement as of June 30, 2017. The committee will be searching for a member to fill this position.

Members: Please Take the Survey

Mary Lee Makinen, ABS Executive Secretary

The home page of the DKG site has a Survey Monkey questionnaire. It is only 3 or 4 questions. If you would like your opinion shared, please go to our web site at www.dkg.org, click on the **Features** tab, and look for the **DKG Membership Survey**. It is a changing site and you may need to wait a few seconds for it to come up. It takes less than a minute to complete. Please share with your chapter members.

Do you need a magnetic DKG badge? Order it now!



Do you need a magnetic DKG Badge to hold your DKG pin and other unique items? Order it now! Send your name, chapter, state and the ribbon color (red, black or white) to:

Susan Brinsfield
7907 East Shire Dr.
Berlin, MD 21811
coachbrins66@gmail.com
(443) 880-0358

Costs: \$25.00 & \$3 shipping
Checks payable to Susan Brinsfield

New DKG Poems Published

June Bowers, Arts & Humanities Jury

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Arts & Humanities Jury is pleased to announce the publication of *The Door* and *My DKG Sister, My Blessing*, poems by **Lorraine Williams Johnson**, in the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts, an online gallery of works of art and letters at www.dkg.org. Johnson, a resident of Capitol Heights, MD, is a member of Theta Chapter of the Maryland State Organization of the Society.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honorary society of women educators with over 81,000 members in approximately 2361 chapters in 17 countries worldwide. It focuses the collective energies of an international organization to achieve the greatest good for everyone involved in all fields of education—students, instructors and administrators. The Society promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education through seminars, workshops, conferences, scholarships and the publication of members' research and writing.

Dr. Annie Webb Blanton, a professor at the University of Texas at Austin, and eleven other educators founded Delta Kappa Gamma in 1929.



Alpha Beta State News

Diane Straub
1605 Crestline Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904

First Fridays

Let's Put Our Name Out There!

The Leadership Development Committee has discussed several ideas to market our name to the community. First Fridays will be one of our first marketing tools for Alpha Beta State Organization. **Every First Friday of the month, please wear your DKG item such as shirts, sweaters, scarves or vests or use your DKG bags to carry your shopping items.** Have your elevator speech ready

because someone will ask you about DKG. Mark your calendar for every First Friday and let's see what the results will be.

Post your pictures on Facebook with the message- "Where were you the First Friday?" Share with your DKG friends to remind them that we want everyone to join in on First Friday. The first Friday date of January 1st is approaching, so let's get ready to "put our name out there".



World Fellowship News

Education for the World

Laura McClelland, Omicron
Joanne Clise, Eta

Peggy Way, Phi
Ann Campbell, Nu

The rhythm for the World Fellowship committee this biennium is "Education for the World". World Fellowship helps to fulfill part of Purpose 5 which states that we grant fellowships to women educators from other countries. This program began in 1946 at the National Convention in San Francisco where four German women educators received funds from Delta Kappa Gamma to spend eight weeks of study and visitation in Sweden in the spring of 1948. From 1960 through the 2013-2014 academic year Delta Kappa Gamma has helped 900 women in 120 countries receive awards totaling \$3,269,100. Our tax deductible contributions and bequests determine the number of World Fellowship Awards given each year by the committee. There is a stringent application process found in the brochure on the website, www.dkg.org.

You can also see this year's recipients. Take time to get to know and correspond with some of them. Some of you may have met last year's recipient, Silvia Mata-Marin, at the Northeast Regional Conference. Having support from others is encouraging when studying away from home.

In order to continue to reach out and help make the hopes and dreams of these non-DKG members from countries other than the USA and Canada possible we need your help. A challenge was presented at the August Executive Board meeting for each chapter to double the contribution they made to World Fellowship last year. There are many creative ways to reach this goal: Silent auction; white elephant sale; used book sale; count the number of letters in your name and contribute a quarter for each letter; happy dollars where each person present at a meeting

Encourage members to place loose change in the World Fellowship jar.



has the opportunity to put a dollar in the jar and share something good that has happened to them since the last meeting.

Each chapter present at the August meeting received a labeled jar and encouraged members to place their loose change in the jar. It is amazing how quickly those coins add up. Please keep track of the funds your chapter raises. The treasurer can record the amount raised or contributed by your chapter on a separate line item in your chapter budget for World Fellowship. We look forward to recognizing chapters who meet the goal at the leadership conference in the spring.

Thank you for your support. Together we can help make the hopes and dreams of these young women possible.