



Gamma Theta Chapter

Alpha Delta State

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Honoring Our Past,
Building Our Future



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Important Dates

Tuesday, February 7, 2017
Personal Safety, Part II - PUMC

Tuesday, March 14, 2017
Technology Terrors - ACC

March 24-26
Alpha Delta State Convention
Hilton Akron/Fairlwan

Saturday, April 8, 2017
Indian Museum Tour

Saturday, May 20, 2017
Tri-Chapter Brunch

July 12 - 14, 2017
Northeast Regional Conference
Caesars Resort and Convention Center
Windsor, Ontario, Canada

July 16-20, 2018
DKG International Convention
JW Marriott Austin
Austin, Texas

President's Message

Dear Fellow Sisters of Gamma Theta,

Happy New Year! May 2017 bring you much happiness, good health, new experiences and many blessings for you and those dear to you.

It is hard to believe that our meetings for 2016-2017 are half over. I hope you have enjoyed and learned new things at each of the meetings so far. To recap a few things, November saw us welcome four very deserving women into DKG as our sisters. Please be sure to introduce yourself to our newest initiates when you see them; Michelle Miller, Bonnie Novotny, Melanie Sluga and Teresa Sternberg.

Congratulations to three of our teaching members; Barb Hogan, Dianna Misich and Heather Tromba. These women were all recipients of a Gamma Theta Scholarship which enable them to purchase items for use in their classrooms. We will award scholarships again in the spring, so please download an application from our Chapter's website or get a form at one of our meetings. We know many of you have wonderful ideas that you are trying to incorporate in your classrooms, and we would like to help fund those projects.

Did you know that one lucky person who attends our monthly meeting receives a raffle prize each month? In December there was an additional prize and Cheryl Behnke won two tickets to a Willoughby Fine Arts production.

Looking ahead to the rest of our meetings this year, in February Carla Gray comes back to do Personal Safety, Part II. She will have handouts from what she presented last year and will present all new information for this next meeting. In March you will have the opportunity to choose what technology session you want to attend. Sessions are being planned and more information will be provided prior to the meeting. There will be sessions for both retirees and those actively teaching. April's meeting will take us to the Indian Museum's new and larger display location. We will finish off the year with the annual May Tri-Chapter brunch where we get to sit back and relax as it is being hosted by Gamma Iota. More information will be provided for this event as soon as it is received.

On a final note, please read the updates about our service projects in this newsletter. Your generosity in donating items to these projects is greatly appreciated. Please help out by donating items if you can.

For those of you teaching, may your second semester be rewarding and productive. May those of you who are retired spend your time doing whatever you wish, whenever you wish.

Respectfully,

Linda Wood
lsw650@hotmail.com

Treasurer's Report *as of December 13, 2016*

General Fund = \$3,028.90
Grant-in-Aid/Scholarship Fund = \$3,440.74
Total Checkbook Balance = \$6,469.64
Membership Total = 76 members

68 active members
8 reserve members

Chapter Officers 2016 - 2018

President - Linda Wood
Co-First Vice Presidents - Pat Hall-Miller & Paulette Howell
Second Vice President - Teresa Gerboth
Recording Secretary - Patti Weinstein
Corresponding Secretary - Dianna Misich
Treasurer - Genny Sivula-Phillips

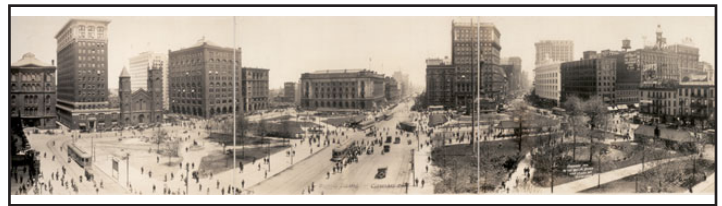
November Initiation Luncheon

Our Chapter met at Quail Hollow Country Club for our annual November Initiation Luncheon. During the beautiful candlelit ceremony, the four deserving professional women initiated were Michelle Miller, Bonnie Novotny, Melanie Sluga and Teresa Sternberg. Member Noralee Starr sang “The Symbols of DKG”. Debbie Hall, a 25 year member of Gamma Theta will be recognized at a later date.

Following a delicious lunch, members were entertained by author and storyteller, Dan Ruminski. He spoke about “The Famous and Infamous Women of Millionaire’s Row. The story of Cassie Chadwick was a big hit as we found out about her outlandish swindling including claiming Andrew Carnegie of New York City was her father. She managed to secure loans throughout the Cleveland financial community totaling about 15 million dollars. Following Cassie’s arrest, her husband Dr. Chadwick filed for divorce and arranged a European tour. Cassie died in prison at the age of fifty.



Michelle Miller, Melanie Sluga, Teresa Sternberg and Bonnie Novotny



Millionaire's Row, Cleveland

December at Willoughby Fine Arts

Members attending the December meeting were treated to a discussion by the Director of Fine Arts at the school, who explained the process of selecting what productions will be produced and who will direct them. Once the shows have been chosen the calls go out for people to audition. Throughout the year there are five major productions and also One Act plays. Depending on the play, there are performers from very young children to the young at heart. Many performances are sold out weeks in advance as was the case for “Beauty and the Beast” which was being produced in December. Following the talk, we were given the opportunity to go on stage and handle the props. Some adventurous members even climbed up into the tower. Many stated that they plan to attend future performances at Willoughby Fine Arts. What a lovely gem for theatre productions is right in our own backyard.



Snuggled in Hope Quilts



At the March meeting, the service committee will be collecting 100% cheerful, kid-friendly, cotton fabrics. The fabric will be used for children attending Paul Newman's Flying Horse farm, located in Mt. Gilead, Ohio. The Flying Horse Farm is a camp for seriously ill children, ages 8-16.

Any collected fabric will be donated to the "Snuggled in Hope Quilts" volunteers. In return, these volunteers will use the fabric to create quilts for children attending camp. The quilts are designed to provide warmth, comfort, and will leave with the child as a reminder of their camp experience.

Please do not send flannel, fleece, denim, and or knit. This organization will only use 100% cotton fabric. Any size of fabric is usable.

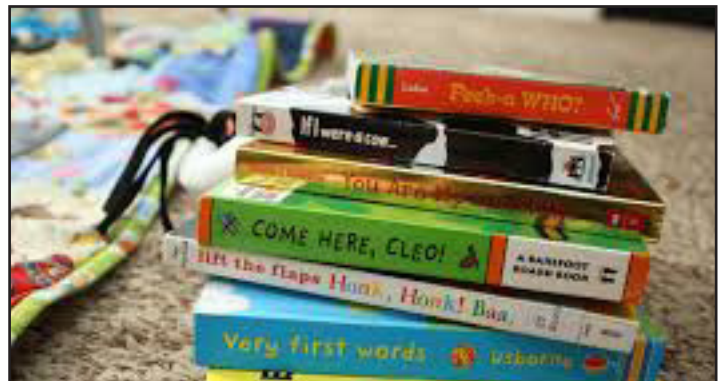
Thank you in advance for any donation.

Books for Babies

Thank you for your contributions so far this year to Books for Babies. These are new "board" books for babies, in English or Spanish. When we learned how quickly Tri-Point went through last year's donation, we realized we needed to increase our goal. So we set our goal for 200, 25 more books than last year.

We collected 19 books at our December meeting which brings our total to 67. **This leaves us with 133 to collect before our May meeting.** That works out to about 45 for each of the next three meetings.

Thank you for helping with this important community service to support literacy!



Rainbow Hospital Service Project

We have collected over 600 items in 4 months of collection so far this year. This includes travel-size toiletries and used children's books & magazines. We can use travel size toiletry donations, but need men's and women's deodorants and toothbrushes/toothpastes to equal out our other donations. Please don't forget that we accept donations of **gently used** books (children & adult) as well as magazines for both patients and parents while enduring a stay at the hospital.

Consider telling your friends about our worthwhile service projects as they may be happy to clean out their closets!!



DKG Receives Donation



Pat Hall-Miller, Carol Darr & Diana Lopez

DKG received donations from Future Business Leaders Club at Harvey High School. Diana Lopez, an officer of the group, is seen with Carol Darr and Pat Hall-Miller with the donation which included 35 small stuffed animals and 17 children's books.

Suit Yourself

Suit Yourself, Inc. is a local, non-profit organization assisting Northeast Ohio women seeking employment by providing free, career-appropriate clothing offering support to achieve independence during work/life transition. Suit yourself makes a difference in the lives of economically challenged women who do not have the clothing they need to present a strong professional appearance. **Donation Days are the 1st Saturday of the Month 10:00-Noon, 47 W. Walnut, Painesville.** There is a current need for plus-sized clothing.

Be WISE Camp

Our chapter is asked to put together a themed basket for auction to benefit a donation of scholarship to a young girl to Be WISE Camp. This camp is a math, science, engineering and technology camp designed to engage girls, grades 7 & 8 at Denison University. Our basket theme is, Ohio-The Heart of It All!

If you are interested in donating Ohio themed items for Gamma Theta's basket, please bring to a February or March meeting. The raffle will take place at the State Convention.

Member News

Congratulations, **Marietta Lipps!** Marietta was recently appointed to the Board of Morely Library, in Painesville.



Linda Wise welcomed a grandson, Riley. He was born January 12th and was 5 lbs. Congratulations!



Updates & Reminders

- Please mark in your Red Books: **Mary Jane Watson** has a new e-mail address: Mjwatson1959@gmail.com
- Bring non-perishable food items to Painesville UMC on February 7th's meeting.
- If you prefer, bring your laptops to the Technology Terrors meeting March 14th at ACC.

Sunshine Notes

**Please review these important Sunshine notes.
Thank You!**

- Please notify Pat Hall-Miller when a member is hospitalized or has a death in the immediate family.
- The Sunshine chairman will send cards to members for extended illness, hospitalizations or death in the immediate family and arrange for a red rose to be given when possible.



Mark Your Calendars! Gamma Theta Events



Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Personal Safety with Carla Gray,

DKG Member, Part 2

Location: Painesville United Methodist Church
71 N. Park Place, Painesville 44077

Arrival: 6:45 **Program:** 7:00, Meeting to Follow
Bring Donation for Methodist Church Pantry

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

Technology Terrors - Google Docs & Hangout

*Presented by DKG Members: Teresa Gerboth, Marcia
Searson & Patti Weinstein*

Location: ACC Technology Learning Center
8140 Auburn Rd., Concord 44077

Arrival: 6:30 **Program:** 6:45, Meeting to Follow

Saturday, April 8, 2017

Tour the Indian Museum

Location: 7519 Mentor Ave, Suite A112
"Colonial Plaza" Mentor, 44060

Arrival: 10:00 **Tour:** 10:15 - Meeting to Follow

Saturday, May 20, 2017

Tri Chapter Brunch

Hosted by Gamma Iota

Program: To Be Announced

Location: Manakiki Golf Course
35501 Eddy Road -Willoughby, 44094

Arrival: 10:30



STATE TEACHERS
RETIREMENT SYSTEM
OF OHIO

STRS Update

Study Shows STRS Ohio Has High Investment Returns, Low Costs Compared to Peer Retirement Systems

CEM Benchmarking, a leading global research company, presented the results of its 2015 investment benchmarking study to the board. The report compared investment data for the five-year period ending Dec. 31, 2015, from 17 large U.S. public fund sponsors. Results of the study showed STRS Ohio ranked second best in the peer group for lowest investment costs. STRS Ohio's strategy of using internal investment managers for about 71% of the system's assets was the primary reason for its low overall costs. The report stated that STRS Ohio saved about \$102 million in 2015 by using the internal management approach. The savings is based on the peer group's median external management costs.

The report also provided performance data and showed that STRS Ohio's five-year total net return of 8.3% was in the top 25% of CEM's U.S. public fund universe. This is based on calendar year results. The five-year return exceeds STRS Ohio's assumed rate of return of 7.75%. CEM said STRS Ohio's strong performance was due largely to its asset mix, which has a higher weighting in U.S. stocks and a lower weighting in fixed income than the peer group.



Member Spotlight *Carol Ford*



Carol Ford was one of nine people initiated into DKG in 1975 at the ballroom of the Unionville Tavern. They had an orientation at a luncheon at Hellriegel's Inn in Painesville. She was very impressed with the membership chairman, Margaret Barb who showed them beautifully organized pictures on posters. These depicted photographs of member meetings, social events, and various service projects involving the DKG members. For several meetings, members picked up the members in Carol's class and escorted them to the meetings. She found this kind gesture to be very comforting and helped in meeting other members. Carol served as the Tri-President from 2002-2008 with Janet Guerra and Roberta Kalb. Prior to that, she was First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, and served on several committees including membership and song leader.

At the 2015 DKG initiation ceremony at Quail Hollow Country Club, Carol received her 40 year pin which is a wonderful milestone! She also has participated in leading several programs for our chapter. An example of one included a presentation with Kathy Oravec. It involved a Mozart program featuring Van Gogh's "Starry Night" picture and making an accordion star book.

Carol and her harp student have also played the harp at several of our DKG events. The latest event was at the Tri-Chapter May event held at the Steele Mansion in Painesville. They played as members entered and during part of the meal. Several members of our chapter and the other two chapters expressed their joy at hearing this lovely music. It's hard to believe that Carol started playing the harp at the age of 50. The DKG International Headquarters are located in Austin, Texas. Carol was able to tour the facilities. She was fascinated with a display of little dolls of all of the DKG founding members dressed in historic attire from their eras. The furnishings were also very impressive.

Carol graduated from Edinboro University where she majored in elementary and music education. She has a love for teaching! Since 1970, she has been involved with music at Painesville United Methodist Church. She directs the youth and children hand bell groups. In the past, she also directed the children's choir and girls' ensemble. Carol has taught school in the Painesville Township and Madison Local School systems. She taught 3rd grade, chorus, and elementary music. She spent her last 20 years teaching at HNK in Madison and planning the music concerts. She also taught at Lake Erie College as an adjunct for 15 years. Today, she has 1 harp student, 3 piano students, and 2 resonator bell students. Carol enjoys spending time with her family. She has been married to John for 42 years. They have two children, Megan and Eric, and three male grandchildren. Her dog, Nelson is part poodle and part traveling salesman. Genie is a stubby-tailed cat. SIRRULLIUM is a fish who lives in a clockquarium. Carol has many hobbies. She sews, knits, gardens, weaves baskets, refurbishes/builds/and reupholsters furniture, stencils, and does flower arranging. She has many other talents too.



January

Noralee Starr - 1
Cheryl Bissler - 12
Jeanette Crislip - 14
Marjorie Deak - 27
Bonnie Novotny - 27
Pat Hall-Miller - 28
Carol Vargo - 29

February

Teresa Gerboth - 4
Patricia Weinstein - 5
Linda Wise - 6
Ellen Timms - 12
Judy Grant - 17
Debbie Lavalley - 18
Kay Billington - 22
Barb Inscho - 25
Debbie Green - 27

March

Kathy Bell - 2
Karen Capretta - 2
Melanie Sluga - 16
Carol Guth - 22
Cheryl Behnke - 24
Mary Battung - 25
Paulette Howell - 29
Diane Ingels - 29
Kathy Watson - 29

April

Marietta Lipps - 19
Cindy Ferritto - 24

May

Natalie Newhous - 1
Mary Sleeman - 1
Gloria McKinney - 17
Deborah Nanney - 19
Genny Sivula-Phillips - 21

June

Pam Richmann - 2
Debbie Hall - 25
Laura Augustine - 26
Carol Darr - 27
Linda Wood - 29