



Dianna Misich, Editor

Gamma Theta Chapter

January 2024 Volume XIII, Issue 2

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Winter-Spring 2024 Programs & Events

Jan. 20th~Executive Committee Meeting-Time and Place TBA

Feb. 13~LEC, Presenters, Jan Balala and Joan Gotttschling will share adventures about their exciting trip to Antarctica. There will also be a memorial in honor of DKG member, Cindy Ferritto. 5:45

March 12~Social Meeting- “Lucky You” @ Spats Cafe in Mentor, 5:45 Join us for a fun time!

April 16~New Member Initiation, Ernst Room, LEC-Dinner and Speaker, Erin Nusker, 5:45

May 18~Hosting Tri-Chapter Meeting, Speaker: Mark Johnson, LEC Social Parlor

Please remember to sign up to donate a basket~More info inside.

Barb Dolan, Committee Chair

2022-2024 Gamma Theta Executive Board

- Hannah Fairbanks, President
- Pat Hall-Miller, First Vice-President
- Dianna Misich, Corresponding Secretary
- Pam Richmann, Recording Secretary
- Annie Zahradnik, Treasurer

President’s Message

News from your President-

This January will bring the second edition of the DKG Newsletter for the 2023-2024 year. Currently, I bring you news that our website is up and running. Please check it out! Many people helped to update the various tabs by sending current information. While I would like to take total credit, it was really my daughter who sat and helped to create this site. Please enjoy the new format, a tribute page to Cindy Ferritto, and the picture tab.

<http://www.gammathetaoh.org/>

The Red Book and Membership lists are completed. Hopefully, all of you can copy these two items for your own personal use. If you can’t, please let one of the officers know and we will provide you with a copy!

A special thank you to all of you that purchased Pampered Chef over the past several months. This was a way to earn funds for the Grant-In-Aid program. Our purchases brought in approximately \$430.00 for grants that will be available to a college sophomore or junior.

Membership applications are available at our meetings as well as on the website. Please remember to get these back to Mary Battung or Mary Sleeman by Feb. 23rd.

The Gamma Theta Scholarship is now available online. Remember to send those applications to Sally Rogus by the date posted on the website.

The Memorial Grant-In-Aid Scholarship application is also on the website. The Chairperson will make this available to local colleges. These applications need to be sent to Sally Vaiden-Lauer.

In May we will be electing new officers. If you would like to step up to a leadership position, please let our officers know. Many of the present officers have agreed to stay on for another term. BUT if someone would like to serve, we all invite you to do so.

Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation- As the year begins, please consider contributing to this Fund. Last year a teacher from Elm Street obtained one of these grants for the Elm Street Girl’s Club. I encourage people to give. I also encourage active teachers to apply for funding for projects as well as to use for future education needs. Go to the Ohio Website for the application.

If there is important information to get to our members, please remember to send your information to Pat Hall-Miller. Pat will distribute all information quickly to our members.

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers:

Debbie Lavalley for the loss of her husband. Cards are always appreciated.

Marcia Searson has traveled to South Carolina to help her son and his family. Her son Jeremy has been diagnosed with cancer. Marcia can use thoughts and prayers as she is with her son.

Sincerely,

Hannah Fairbanks

Gamma Theta President



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



Ohio State Organization

DKG Theta Updates



Ohio State Organization

More from Hannah-Looking back at Fall Meetings...

*Our first meeting was our kick-off meeting at Mama Roberto's Restaurant in Mentor, Ohio. Great turn out, delicious food and a lot of FUN! Community Service was monetary collection for End 68 Hours of Hunger.

*Our second meeting was educational in nature at the Hispanic Community-HOLA Center in Painesville, Ohio. Veronica Dahlberg introduced the members to the lovely facility and the various opportunities for us to become involved in this center. Community Service was a gathering of supplies for Annie's Little Train of Hope.



*Our third meeting was at the Sub-Zero Mission Headquarters in Painesville. At this location we learned about the mission of this facility. Our community service project was to take an in-gathering of funds and present the director-Al Raddatz with a donation for use fighting homelessness. These donations help provide warm clothing and materials to those living on the streets.



Recent Retirees...

Becky Suran retired from Riverside Local School District. Becky was a 6th grade Math and Science teacher at LaMuth Middle School. She is planning a trip to Europe and vacationed in Greece in June. She and her husband have a bucket list of vacations they plan to take in the future. Have a great full-filled retirement!

Carol Vargo retired after being an SLP for 33 years (mostly in Madison and previously in Dayton). She's been an Indians/Guardians fan since 2009 and a season ticket holder since 2016. Some of her favorite players over the years include Napoli, Lindor, Giambi, Kipnis and Ramirez. Carol spends time with her cats including an elderly one which requires some medications. This prevents her from traveling right now, but she's looking forward to taking some trips in the future. Right now, she's content to stay at home and start weeding through closets and shelves for things to donate! She's looking forward to volunteering at school (or possibly substituting).



Upcoming Meetings/Events

January 20th~Executive Meeting~ Time and place TBA

Our February 13th Meeting will be back at LEC. We will be honoring Cindy Ferritto. Diane Ingles is in the process of writing the memorial service. If you have anything to add to the service in the form of memories of Cindy, please send them to Diane Ingles. We will also have Joan Gottschling and Jan Balala from "Wild Women" taking us to Antarctica! (Refreshments: Elaine Wargo, Linda Wood, Pam Richmann, and Liz Titler) Community Service: Monetary donation to End 68 hours of Hunger.

"Lucky You" is the theme for our March 12th meeting!

Come Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with your DKG friends.

The private room at Spats Cafe is reserved.

(9853 Johnnycake Ridge Rd., Mentor)

There will be appetizers, a cash bar and

we will be voting on new members.

Wear your green! The Community Service for this gathering is "Annie's Little Train of Hope."



www.freepik.com

April 11, 2024~New Initiates Meeting~Time 5:45 at LEC, Ernst Board Room (Informational Meeting)

April 16, 2024~(Tuesday Evening Initiation) Ernst Board Room @ LEC. Dinner will be at 5:30.

The speaker is Erin Nusker, children's author and kindergarten teacher in the Madison Local Schools. She has written two picture books for young children dealing with social and emotional issues. The greeters for this meeting are Katie Sivula and team.

May 18, 2024~Tri-Chapter Brunch, Lake Erie College Social Parlor

<https://clipart-library.com/gift-basket-cliparts.html>

May Tri-Chapter Basket Donations



We presently have 8 baskets that 15 members have volunteered to contribute to our major fundraiser being held May 18, 2024. All money raised from the sale of tickets goes to the Gamma Theta Memorial Grant-in-Aid. This big May Tri-Chapter event is only hosted by our Chapter once every three years. Please consider donating a basket either alone or with fellow members. If creating a basket of items is not your "thing", the committee will accept your cash donations and create a basket(s) on your behalf. We are also happy to arrange items you donate into a basket/container for you.

We are accepting items at any meeting up until April 16, 2024. You can also contact any of the following committee members and we will make arrangements to pick up your donations: Dianne Cross, Pat Hall-Miller, Dianna Misich or Linda Wood, and myself. Please list all items that are in your basket when you give them to us.

Themes that we have so far are: Gardening Basket with books, puzzles, etc., Charcuterie Board, etc.; Pampered Chef Items; "Let Me Do the Dishes" (paper products for holidays, seasonal etc.); Kindle/Reading basket; and three baskets yet to be named. Baskets in all price ranges from very small to \$100 are needed. The last time we hosted the event, our members donated 42 baskets! Please help us make this event a HUGE success!! Barb Dolan, Committee Chair



Committee Reports



The Community Service Committee

Marcia Searson and Elaine Wargo, Chairpersons

The Community Service Committee collected **\$300.00** For End 68 Hours of Hunger in September. In October, we collected \$384.00 for Little Annie's Hope Train. We collected \$404.00 and a washer/dryer for Sub Zero Mission in November. Your generosity will help so many. Thanks. The Community Service Committee will continue to collect money, items, and or personal time to help sponsor these charities.

1. **End 68 Hours of Hunger:** This charity collects food for students in need in Lake County. Each week, volunteers sort, package, and deliver approximately 500 food bags to 35 local schools. These bags are to provide food for students during the weekend to prevent hunger during those 68 hours.
2. **Little Annie's Hope Train:** To provide basic essentials for the homeless in Northeast Ohio.
3. **Gamma Theta Scholarships:** Provide Memorial Grant-In-Aid to college students enrolled in education and scholarships for our actively teaching members' classroom needs.

February	March	April	May
<p>68 Hours of Hunger: collecting monetary donations</p> <p>Senior Readers: personal time one day month from 12:50-2:45</p>	<p>Little Annie's Hope Train: collecting -adult crew or tall socks (NO ankle). -Adult gloves -Hand warmers</p> <p>Senior Readers: personal time one day month from 12:50-2:45</p>	<p>Grant-in-Aid: Create baskets and/or purchase basket tickets auctioned at the Tri-Chapter Meeting</p> <p>Senior Readers: personal time one day month from 12:50-2:45</p>	<p>Grant-in-Aid: Create baskets and/or purchase basket tickets auctioned at the Tri-Chapter Meeting.</p> <p>Senior Readers: personal time one day month from 12:50-2:45</p>

Membership Committee

Mary Battung and Mary Sleeman, Chairpersons

Just a reminder- You may bring potential new members to join us at our February 13 meeting. Recommendation membership forms will be available at the meeting and on the last page of our newsletter. All forms **must** be in by **February 23** and can be sent to either Mary Battung or Mary Sleeman. **Voting will take place on Tuesday, March 12 at our "Lucky You" meeting at Spats! The Initiation Dinner will be Tuesday April 16 at Lake Erie College in the Ernst Board Room, Garfield**



Committee Reports



Treasurer's Report **Annie Zahradnik**

Greetings from your treasurer. As I write this looking out my window, the leaves on my Japanese Cherry Blossom tree are long gone. It is kind of a dreary view. However, my report is anything but dreary. I am in awe when I take notice of your generous hearts. Service is one of the missions of DKG. We are excelling and exceeding expectations in this area. Here is a look at the numbers.

***Scholarship Fund: 1546.50**

***Memorial Grant in Aid: 1330.31~** A special thanks to Hannah Fairbanks who hosted a Pampered Chef party with the proceeds supporting this fund. We received a check for 410.31.

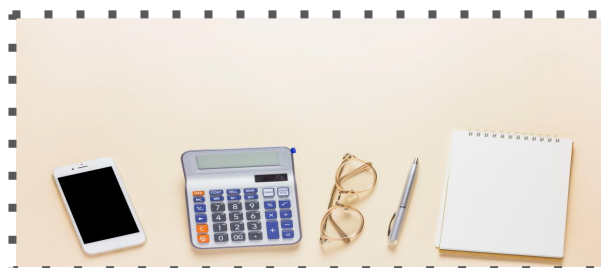
***End 68 Hours of Hunger in Lake County: 335.00** (Currently they are packing 723 bags a week)

***Little Annie's Hope Train: 384.00 plus donations of socks and hand warmers**

***Sub Zero Mission: 454.00 - We collected 404.00 the night of our meeting, plus a member donated a washer and dryer that night and a member sent me a check for 50.00 which will be sent to the organization.**

On behalf of the Memorial Grant-in-Aid, Scholarship Committee and the three organizations we have supported from July 2023 to December 2023, a heartfelt thanks for your donations. We are supporting teachers in the classroom, future teachers, hungry children and warming the homeless. Support for these causes does not only need to happen at meetings, you are welcome to send me a check written to Gamma Theta and in the memo line put in where you want the funds to go. You can mail your check to:

**Annie Zahradnik
30005 Elgin Rd.
Wickliffe OH. 44092**





In Memory of our Dear Sister Cindy Ferritto



Losing a friend is one of the hardest experiences that we go through. Our friends play such an essential part in our lives, providing support, laughter, and unforgettable memories. Today our hearts are heavy with grief, but also brimming with gratitude for having had Cindy Ferritto in our lives.

Cindy was not only a wonderful friend, but a great teacher as well. While in high school, Cindy worked at Deepwood Center with special needs adults. This experience inspired her to continue on to college where she earned her bachelor's degree in special education. Cindy spent the next 24 years teaching for the Madison School District. She started her career in Madison teaching special needs students at the middle school. Cindy took on more training and became a pre-school special needs teacher. Before retiring in 2013, Cindy spent the last few years teaching third grade.

Family and service were also important facets in her life. Cindy was a member of Immaculate Conception and upon retiring she became a case manager for the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Throughout her life, teaching and education played an important role. She was an active member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society serving as president as well as various committee chairs over the years.



In between chairing committees and meetings, Cindy found time for herself. She enjoyed swimming fitness classes, reading and spending time with her friends and family. Her cats Binx and Winnie provided her with much needed comfort and entertainment. Cindy was the beloved wife of 43 years to Jim Ferritto and loving mother of Megan Ferritto. She leaves behind family and friends that miss her dearly.

~Written by Barb Hogan~

Cindy, Megan and Jim



Barb and Cindy





INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™
Ohio State Organization

OSO State President Melody McGee's State Initiative is to create awareness about Domestic Violence. Domestic Violence materials are provided on the State Website <https://www.dkgohio.org/domestic-violence.html> and listed below. October is National Domestic Awareness Month- Let's plan for October 2024 to become informed about this crisis!

Simply stated: Domestic violence is violence committed by someone in the victim's domestic circle. This includes partners and ex-partners, immediate family members, other relatives, and family and friends. The term domestic violence is used when there is a close relationship between the offender and the victim.

President Melody McGee has listed many links to information about this crisis taken from the OSO Delta Kappa Gamma Website:

~Domestic Violence Material~

[What is Domestic Violence Part One](#)

[What is Domestic Violence Part Two](#)

[12 Simple things you can Give to a Woman](#)

[9 Ways to Help a Victim of Domestic Violence](#)

[Map of Domestic Violence Network in Ohio](#)

[Information about Domestic Violence Programs & Shelters](#)



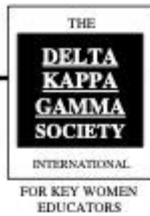
Renew



Recapture



Respond



Recommendation for Membership

Instructions:

Please complete and return this form to the appropriate level Membership Committee. For information about qualifications for membership in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, refer to sections on membership in the *Constitution* and the *International Standing Rules*.

Type of membership:

(check one) Chapter Active _____ Chapter Honorary _____ State Honorary _____ International Honorary _____

Name of Person recommended:

_____ (Title) (First) (Middle) (Last)
 _____ (Street, Route, P.O. Box)
 _____ (State and Country)
 _____ (E-Mail Address) (Telephone Number) (FAX Number)

Current position title: _____

Employer: _____ **Total years as professional educator** _____

Highest educational degree granted: _____ **Year:** _____ **Field:** _____

Professional accomplishments: Include items such as professional development presentations, campus or department leadership roles, published materials, offices in other organizations, honors and/or awards. (A brief professional resume may be attached to this application.)

Community activities:

Endorsed by one or more members:

	Signature	Chapter	State	Date
Required	_____	_____	_____	_____
Optional	_____	_____	_____	_____
Optional	_____	_____	_____	_____