

Alpha Eta News Flash

President's Message

As the flowers and trees begin to bloom outside, we want to thank all of you for your efforts to help our chapter grow and bloom this year!

- You have donated items and/or money to Salvation Army, The Gateway House, The Clark County Literacy Center, and On the Rise.
- You have welcomed 3 new members with at least 1 more on the way.
- You have helped update our rules and practices to align with the changes at the state level.
- You have raised money for our Scholarship and World Fellowship funds.
- We have learned about the missions of The Conscious Connect, our state World Fellowship committee, and The Gateway House, enjoyed talented youth musicians, and learned to meditate away our stressors
- We have honored 5 outstanding members with heartfelt Celebration of Life services.

Maggie and I appreciate all your dedication to our chapter. Use the summer to relax and be ready to FOCUS with our new state president, Dr. Molly Helmlinger, in the fall!

ANNUAL DUES

DKG annual dues of \$75.00 need to be paid by June 30. Nancy Rix will be more than happy to collect your money at the May meeting. Thanks!



May Meeting Information

Monday, May 5

Gaier Room
Main Library
201 S. Fountain Ave.
Springfield, OH

Meeting: 5:30

Inspiration

Carol Dunlap

Program

Founders' Day

May's Donation

Collecting for *Freedom School*: K, 1, and 2 writing paper, crayons, pencils, construction paper, arts and crafts items and paper towels.





The Gateway

Submitted by Lori Young

On Monday, April 7, the members of DKG assembled at the Clark County Library to hear a heartbreaking presentation by Audrey McKanna from The Gateway. The Gateway, a transitional home for 18-year-olds who have been in the foster care system, is located in a beautiful Victorian house at Center Street and Euclid Avenue.

Audrey, former owner of Frame Haven, explained that The Gateway offers a transitional home that slows down the “adulthood” process, yet gives children the life skills needed to be an adult (e.g., empathy, problem solving, time management and other skills). The hope is that the residents will work part-time and also attend school part-time or prepare for a career.

At this time only girls are being accepted into the program. Audrey revealed that The Gateway currently is housing two young women: one who was homeless in high school and the other kicked out of her home by her mother. Judge Katrine Lancaster says that there are over 400 kids between 18 and 24 in Clark County who are couch-surfing! In Ohio there are 16,000 foster care kids in school. In the U.S. 23,000 kids age out of the system. These kids need help and support; The Gateway home definitely needs mentors, house parents, and night shift helpers.

Many children struggle with trauma caused by the foster care system. There are numerous books that can help with this trauma. Some of the titles that Audrey shared are: *Walk To Beautiful*, *A Place Called Home*, *The Boy Who Was Raised As A Dog*, and *Emancipation*. As more people become aware of the issues with the foster care system, perhaps more children will find loving homes and, as adults, create a loving atmosphere for others.

Induction of New Members

During our April meeting our DKG chapter inducted three new members. Our new members are as follows.



Aubree Kushmaul has not strayed far from her roots. She graduated from Northeastern High School in 2006 and is currently an Assistant Principal at Kenton Ridge

Elementary/Middle School—both in the same school district. Aubree was just selected as the Principal of Northeastern Elementary School for the 2025-26 school year.

Aubree received both her Bachelor of Science and Master of Education in Middle Childhood from Wright State University. In 2023, she completed the Wittenberg Principal Licensure Program. Most of Aubree’s career has been with the Springfield City Schools until becoming an Assistant Principal in 2024.



Kathleen Scaggs graduated from Madeira High School (Cincinnati area) in 1987. In 1992 Kathleen received her Bachelors in Education from Wright State and then her

Master’s Degree in Education from Urbana University. Kathleen has taught Special Education for 31 years—the last 23 years have been at Northwestern.

At church, Kathleen teaches Sunday school, is a greeter, and helps with coffee time. She is also a Girl Scout leader and helps at school events.

(continue Induction on next page)



Melissa Young graduated from Kenton Ridge High School in 1993. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Cedarville University and her Master's degree from Urbana University. Melissa has taught Kindergarten and 4th grade with the Springfield City Schools. Melissa was a Graduate Adjunct Professor at Wittenberg University from 2000-2003. In 2025 Melissa presented a Professional Development Workshop on Math Standards Essential Stakeholder.

Melissa is active in her church and taught Sunday School from 2017-2021. She has been running sing 2014.

Remembering Our DKG Sisters



Alberta Dobry



Ardath Dellapina

In March we held the Celebration of Life ceremony for *Alberta Dobry* who died on November 14, 2024. Alberta had been a member of DKG since 1966. She remained active in our Alpha Eta chapter until a year ago when her health declined.

Ardath Dellapina was an Honorary member of DKG since 2005. Ardath taught over 25 years in the Springfield City Schools. After retiring, Ardath became the Director of Education and Programs at the Heritage Center of Clark County until her retirement in 2020. Her keen wit was remembered by anyone she met.



May Birthdays

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|--------------|----|
| Melody Boyd | 6 |
| Diane Page | 8 |
| Ruth Hossler | 12 |
| Ella Barnes | 26 |

2024-25 Officers

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Co-Presidents | Ana Kitts Maggie Shell |
| Co 1 st V. Presidents | Bonnie Pinkerman |
| Recording Secretary | Shari Powell |
| Corresponding Secretary | Barb Shafer |
| Treasurer | Nancy Rix |

Connect with DKG

NATIONAL: www.dkg.org

STATE: www.dkgohio.org

LOCAL: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/OH-alphaeta/>

Master Gardener Volunteers Annual Plant Sale

Come Saturday morning to purchase your plants for spring! There will be a large variety from which to choose.

May 3, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Open until everything is sold or 2:00 p.m.

- Perennials, Annuals, Herbs, Natives, Vegetables, Shrubs, Trees, Ferns and Grasses
- Barn Sale: Garden Art, Accessories and Books