



# The Keystonian

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Key Women Educators

Official Publication of Alpha Alpha State PENNSYLVANIA



## Northeast Regional Conference, July 19-23, 2011 Pennsylvania Welcomed 800 Sisters with Kisses and Hugs, Hershey Style



Over 288 Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters at NERC

Spearheaded by Dr. Lyn Schmid (NERC Director) and Ms. Royce Boyd (Steering Committee Chair), the Northeast Regional Conference provided 800 sisters and guests with the best times of their lives. The setting could not have been more apropos; the pervasive scent of chocolate and flowers permeated the air on steamy days and balmy nights. The purpose could not have been more timely; women educators remained in the forefront of the decision-making process regarding national and international education issues. The activities could not have been more diverse; from historic tours to shopping tours, from sporting events to cultural events, from down-home cooking to world-class cuisine, there was something for everyone in Hershey. (see NERC page 14)



Thanks for a job well done!

**DIRECTORY  
ISSUE...  
SAVE THE  
YELLOW  
PAGES!**

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## Alpha Alpha State Officers 2011-2013

### President

Louann Shrader  
205 Oak Hill Road  
Hanover, PA 17331-9445  
717.632.6023 c. 717.873.1378  
lshrader@embarqmail.com

### First Vice President/ Program of Work/Educational Excellence Committee Chair

Kay Stuart  
1307 Hunter Road  
Knoxville, PA 16928-9481  
814.326.4446 c. 570.418.0052  
estuart001@stny.rr.com

### Second Vice President/ Membership Chair

Tracey Dusch  
316 Broad Street  
Brockway, PA 15824-1310  
814.265.0877 c. 814.771.7773  
trae917@brockwaytv.com

### Recording Secretary

Patricia Shedlock  
1381 Jessica Drive  
Lebanon, PA 17046-1566  
717.865.5615  
mpshed@comcast.net

### Corresponding Secretary

Barbara Gasperini  
131 Whistle Drive  
Harrison City, PA 15636  
724.744.2579  
BarbeeMG@aol.com

### Treasurer

Linda O'Connor  
1 Winding Drive  
Gettysburg, PA 17325-6943  
717.476.0969  
oconnorl@embarqmail.com

### Parliamentarian

Patricia Crouse  
11235 Hickory Run Road  
Orrstown, PA 17244  
717.532.6772  
pcrouse@pa.net

### Website:

[deltakappagamma.org/PA](http://deltakappagamma.org/PA)

### Webmaster

Tammy Miller  
tjmiller@embarqmail.com

### Editor

Bonnie Lee Barnes  
504 East Maitland Lane  
New Castle, PA 16105-1420  
iberrylady@aol.com



## State President's Message

by Louann Shrader

Auspicious moments in history are characterized by reflection and resolve, and so it is with the upcoming 75th anniversary of Alpha Alpha State. Who could have imagined or predicted how that meeting of Key Women Educators on January 23, 1937, would create a "**Butterfly Effect**" of increased opportunities that we, as members, enjoy today? A look at 75 years of growth validates the

resolve of our founders and those who led before us. Our beginnings from a few chapters in the depression and war years to the 60 chapters in Pennsylvania today is an indication of their commitment to our Society's growth. Our ability to annually award \$20,000 in scholarships and enrichment grants, additionally, reflects the commitment of our founders and past leaders to work towards the purposes of the Society. Our ongoing efforts to offer increased opportunities for professional and personal growth of women educators continues as a testimony to the vision and mission of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Our treasured legacy is the difference past members made by going that extra degree.

As we begin this new biennium at the State level, my theme is a reflection of the past that we share and a resolve to continue to move forward towards the future we can envision. As we *'Embrace the Vision and Design the Future,'* my hope is that each member will join me on a vision quest as we realize, "**The Power of the Dream**" and, with that realization and resolve, develop and create ways to move Alpha Alpha State forward for future generations. At the national convention in 1937, just a few months after we were installed as a State Organization, Dr. Annie Webb

Blanton was toasted as the '**Architect of Dreams**' for her vision in creating lasting change in education and for enhancing the opportunities and status of women educators. Dr. Blanton's dream became reality because she chose to be a **M.O.V.E.R.** She had the motivation, used the opportunities afforded her in various professional capacities, focused on her vision, and had the enthusiasm to bring that vision to reality. She went the extra degree - the 212' - and made a difference. Together, we too, can make a difference if we commit to go the extra degree.

Our challenges are many. Early career educators, once the face of optimism and determination, feel the draining effects of their creative juices and dedication. A suffering economy that has caused cuts in education budgets, the bashing that education has received, and the lack of support that some experience, has led them to seek alternative careers outside of education. As a Society, too, financial constraints, brought about by a poor economy and a membership base that needs to be rebuilt, have created a challenge for each member of Alpha Alpha State.

Challenges are opportunities waiting to be met. If our founders were here today they would remind us that in every challenge and difficulty lies a potential vision (cont. page 3) >

# MEMBERSHIP

by Tracey Dusch

## *Greetings, Sisters! Just back from the Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey and my training for state membership chairs...*

As we've all learned the seven purposes of the Society, so the Membership Committee's work has **seven areas of focus:**

1. Identify, invite, and initiate.
2. Re-inspire, re-affirm chapter members, and re-build chapter membership rolls.
3. Track and document members' involvement.
4. Problem-solve membership issues.
5. Seek support when chapters are in distress.
6. Celebrate members' accomplishments.
7. Honor deceased members' devotion to education and the Society.



### **Let's look at focus #1... Identify, invite, and initiate.**

The new orientation guide for chapter membership chairs is called **Pride in the Big Picture**. It "outlines the process through which chapters gain new members" and "provides a way to give prospective members a clear and thorough understanding of the Society before they respond to the invitation to membership."

International President Dr. Jensi Souders and Interim Membership Services Coordinator Sandra Smith Bull went through a mock orientation meeting with the Northeast state membership chairs in Hershey. This new orientation process offered a more concise look at membership in DKG by concentrating on an understanding of the Society (the honor of membership, the Society's vision and mission, the purposes, etc.) and an understanding of

what the invitee can offer the Society (*a vote and a voice to make a difference, participation in chapter activities, presence at chapter meetings/events, opportunities to grow personally and professionally, etc.*).

The orientation should take place in a session weeks or days before the scheduled initiation so that the candidate has time to make an informed decision about accepting the invitation to membership. It should lead the invitee to thoughtful reflection. *Acceptance then means an informed commitment to the organization.*

**Pride in the Big Picture** can be downloaded from the Society's Website...[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). On the homepage click on the picture of the books in the upper left-hand corner that says "Reorientation Guide available." You can access the Orientation Guide and the Slide Show that was used at NERC.

(President's message cont.)

and opportunity that may lead to making some changes; but ultimately will lead to positive growth. We can meet our challenges and, in the long run, grow - we've already started and are on our way with trying a new committee structure and the use of 'go to meeting' to cut spending. As educators experience pay freezes, program cuts, and lack of professional development opportunities, we've taken on the task of mentoring our early career educators. We, as members, can make a difference for future members and educators. In fact, we may even be the answer for them as they seek ways to achieve their professional goals. Together, we can create a legacy for future generations so they, too, can experience the '**Butterfly Effect**'.

We have it in our power to steer the State Organization onto a prosperous track. Together, we need to work to rebuild the membership base. The need to embrace technology as a means to expedite communications and decision-making will always create a challenge as more innovative ways are developed to help organizations flourish. Together we can meet this challenge. Regardless of our personal feelings about inadequacies when it comes to technology, I believe that each member is a lifelong learner and, as such, flourishes in the midst of difficulty. Together, we, like Dr. Blanton, need to take on the persona of **M.O.V.E.R.s** and go 212'. Will you join me in going the extra degree to create an ensuing legacy for our future members?

# PROGRAM OF WORK (POW) EVOLVES INTO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

by Kay Stuart



The state **Educational Excellence Committee** was established by the 2011 Alpha Alpha State Convention in an effort to align our committee structure to that of international committees. The new **EEC** (*Educational Excellence Committee*) will include the work of the former Program, Personal Growth and Services, Professional Affairs, US Forum, and Visual and Performing Arts committees.

## Do Chapters Need to Adopt EEC Structure?

**Chapters do not need to adopt the international or state committee structure. They can fulfill their constitutional responsibilities by establishing committees as needed.** As long as the work of the society is done, the committee structure is up to the chapter.

## I am the Chapter EEC Chair or Counterpart. Now What Do I Do?

1. Working within your chapter's chosen committee structure, develop a plan for the year's educational excellence program that will enable the chapter to meet its chapter-level responsibilities for the work specified in the description of the Educational Excellence Committee (*Constitution, Article VIII, Sections A.2 and C.1*).

2. Include programs and activities that will motivate members to support the international project - "Schools for Africa" - and that will inspire them to support early-career educators. Involve chapter members in selecting these activities. For reporting purposes maintain a record of the amount of money and time your chapter/members spend to support early-career educators.

3. In planning your chapter educational excellence program, consider the international Educational Excellence Committee's suggestions for meaningful programs and activities and review "Visionary Ideas and Projects," a list of outstanding chapter programs and projects compiled by the 2008-2010 Program Committee and posted on the DKG Website. Remember, these are *resources* and are not meant to limit the chapter's choice of programs or activities.

4. Involve chapter officers in determining the themes and program outlines for the year, and inform the president of the time needed for each program.

5. Incorporate music and the other visual and performing arts as an integral part of programs as often as possible.

6. Involve members in each program, whether by icebreaker, group discussion, question-and-answer period, evaluation, or some other means.

7. Verify that each program is related to the Mission, Purposes, and realization of the Vision of the Society.

8. Vary the types of presentations to be used.

9. Use the chapter newsletter to inform members of upcoming programs and to update them on and engage them in chapter projects.

10. Work to gain recognition for the chapter and the Society by giving the local newspaper articles about substantive chapter activities.

11. Prepare and distribute a chapter yearbook



# Projects (POW / EEC)

## Promote The Schools for Africa Project

President Louann Shrader has announced that our state project will be in support of the **International Schools for Africa Project** and challenges each chapter to raise at least \$100 over the next 2 years to support this effort. How easy is that! There are as many ways to raise that money as there are chapters! Money raised will be sent to Linda O'Connor, our state treasurer, so that we can send one large check of at least \$6000.

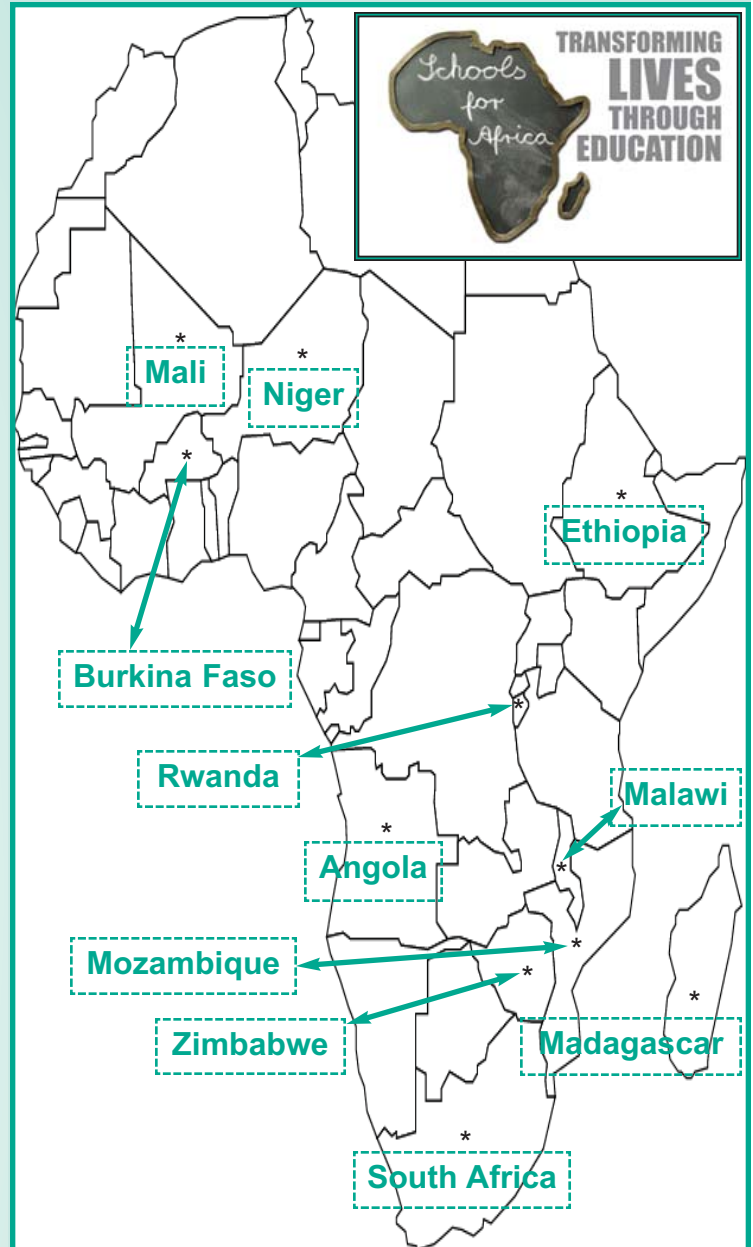
### What Is The Schools for Africa Project?

In sub-Saharan Africa one-third of all children do not have access to an education. In many cases this is because of inadequate school facilities and unqualified teachers. In addition, many schools lack gender-separate sanitation facilities, causing many adolescent girls to stay home. Poverty also forces these students to forego an education. They must work so that their families may survive. Schools for Africa makes it possible for children in these countries to realize the dream of an education and a better future. Support of this project allows all DKG members to embrace our vision of impacting education worldwide, not just in one country, but throughout an entire continent.

Schools for Africa operates in 11 countries: **Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.** (See map for country locations.) The campaign was founded in 2004 by UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation, and the Hamburg Society for the Promotion of Democracy and International Law. In 2009 additional corporate donors and foundations joined the effort: Gucci, the George Harrison Fund, the U.S. Fund Boston Board, and Kind World Foundation.

### How Can You Find Out More About The Project?

Schools for Africa link on International Website where the following information can be found:



- \* UNICEF brochure
- \* Photo Gallery
- \* What your support can do
- \* Newsettes
- \* Articles published in the *DKG News* and the *DKG@UN* newsletter
- \* Schools for Africa Newsette - posted monthly on the DKG Website, featuring information about the countries supported by the project, sample chapter programs, and fundraiser ideas
- \* Schools for Africa blog on the Delta Kappa Gamma Network

# New Initiates and Reinstated Members



## Beta

Ms. Katherine Campbell  
Mrs. Christine Cunningham

## Lambda

Mrs. Susan Herman  
Mrs. Tammi Martin  
Mrs. Bonnie O'Neil  
Mrs. Debbie Sonntag

## Beta Alpha

Ms. Mariann DeMaria

## Beta Theta

Ms. Susan Dempniak  
Mrs. Anna McDonald  
Mrs. Betsy Oberheim  
Mrs. Barbara Taylor

# Scholarships and Grants from Alpha Alpha State

## SCHOLARSHIPS for EDUCATION

For Active Members  
of 3 years or more  
pursuing Graduate Study\*

Must be used within one year of award  
Member may apply more than one year  
Member's maximum \$7,000

Application must be postmarked by  
February 1, 2012.

Post Office will return postage due  
applications to sender.

## ENRICHMENT GRANTS for GROWTH

For Active Members  
of 3 years or more  
for personal, professional or  
educational growth\*

Must be used within one year of award  
Member may apply more than one year  
Member's maximum \$5,000

## MARIAN SPITZER ROBLING SCHOLARSHIP for NEW MEMBERS

For Active Members  
in 1st, 2nd or 3rd year membership  
pursuing Graduate Study\*

Must be used within one year of award  
Approximate amount will be \$1,000

Contact:  
Lois Brown  
2458 Raleigh Drive  
Lancaster PA 17601-2950  
clbfour@verizon.net  
(717) 569-4984



\*See Website for application forms.  
[www.deltakappagamma.org/PA](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/PA)  
Click on Committees in Action  
at left side of screen.

## IN STEP WITH TECH:

# STEPS TO MAKE YOUR PC VIRUS FREE!

by Linda Nickerson



You've got the chills, your stomach is rolling, your throat is sore, and now your fever is soaring. Yep, you've caught a virus, and if you're not very careful, you'll spread it to everyone you see. Who's responsible for your feeling so lousy? Just about anyone with whom you might have crossed paths.

All of us have battled such nasty flu bugs, but our computers have it even worse: they are susceptible to viruses year-

round. There is a reason tech-types named those nasty bits of code that wreak havoc on your computer "viruses." After all, like the dreaded biological viruses, they are highly contagious, are hard to get rid of, and often find their way into systems through otherwise innocent means.



Fortunately, preventing or getting rid of computer viruses is usually quicker than recovering from the chills-and-fever rollercoaster, and can be accomplished by simply remaining vigilant.

The Internet presents an opportunity for viruses to attack any unsuspecting user. For a naïve user it would be difficult to discern a virus as it comes in many forms: installers, Trojans, and worms, among others.

Take a look at these tips that will help reduce the risk of your computer getting infected by a virus:

- **Browse with caution.**

Most viruses enter your computer as a result of clicking on pop-ups or untrustworthy web site links.

- **Open emails cautiously.**

Even if the subject seems harmless, emails can contain links that lead to a virus entering the computer. If the email is from a source that you do not know, treat it with extra caution. Also, use caution when opening a forwarded email.

- **Install or download clean programs.**

Download programs and files only from a trusted source.

- **Install a firewall and antivirus software.**

A firewall helps you prevent unauthorized access to your computer while an antivirus package can protect your computer from viruses.

- **Perform regular virus scans.**

Scan your computer for viruses on a regular basis, say once or twice a week.

- **Be cautious with removable media.**

Removable media refers to USB drives, portable hard drives, and memory cards. Be careful since they are major factors in facilitating the spreading of viruses. Use only trusted devices on your computer. Scan files for viruses before using them.

- **Use your common sense.**

If you are thinking twice about an attachment, get rid of it quickly.

***The most important thing you can do to protect yourself against viruses is keep your antivirus software updated.***

**Sources:**

McBanan, Pinky. "Tips to Make Your Computer Virus-Free." November 24, 2010 and All about Cookies.

### Announcing Staff Vacancy

#### The Ad Hoc Personnel Committee

of Alpha Alpha State is announcing a staff vacancy for the position of **State Webmaster**, effective June 1, 2012. Please share this information with your chapter members and encourage interested and qualified individuals to apply. The deadline to apply is **February 1, 2012**.

For further information please contact  
Carolyn Sutton

Ad Hoc Personnel Committee Chair

122 North Atlantic Avenue

Cheswick, PA 15024

[clsutton21@msn.com](mailto:clsutton21@msn.com)

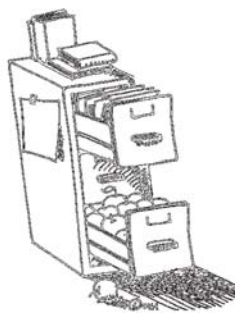
## Historical Records Needs Materials

You might not be aware of it, but Alpha Alpha State is fortunate to have all of its historical records safely archived in the Penn State Library. This includes the minutes, *Keystonians*, conference and convention programs, etc. It is a wonderful history of our state organization. Unfortunately there are gaps in our history as well as missing issues and programs. **That is where you can help.** Perhaps you have saved your issues of the *Keystonian* or programs from conventions and fall area conferences. (Isn't that what teachers do?) If you would be willing to donate any such items which are needed or let the committee make a copy, that would be most helpful. We are particularly in need of Nancy Grove's biennium 1993 - 1995.

The Historical Records Committee Chair, Barbara Emmer, would appreciate any information or hard copies of the records. The committee is presently working on a booklet for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary which covers the last twenty-five years. The historical records have been a source of information to be included in the booklet. The 2012 convention in State College, June 8-10, will be a celebration of the Diamond Anniversary of Alpha Alpha State.

So see what you have stored away in boxes, tote bags, or on shelves and contact

Barbara Emmer at [bookiewoman@comcast.net](mailto:bookiewoman@comcast.net) if you have anything to share or donate to our historical records collection.



## President's Schedule:

September 13	Alpha Epsilon Chapter visit
September 22	Alpha Beta visit
October 1	Chi Chapter visit
October 3	Zeta Chapter visit
October 7 - 8	Membership/Expansion & Program of Work for Educational Excellence State Committee Meetings
October 22	Psi Chapter visit
December 1 - 2	Convention Planning Meeting
March 10	Theta Chapter visit
March 24	Scholarship Committee Meeting
March 31	Tri-Chapter visit - Iota, Beta Xi, Beta Epsilon
April 3	Phi Chapter visit
April 14	Beta Kappa/Omega visit
April 21	Harrisburg Chapters visit - Kappa, Alpha Kappa, Beta Iota, Beta Theta
April 27 - 28	Creative Arts Retreat
May 5	Tri-Chapter visit - Gamma, Alpha Iota, Alpha Omega
May 17	Beta Iota visit
May 19	York Chapters visit - Eta, Beta Beta, Beta Delta, Beta Gamma

Did you know that the first letters in Delta Kappa Gamma are first letters in the Greek words for *Teacher, Key, and Women?*

# ALPHA ALPHA STATE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

## 2011-2013 BIENNIUM

### President

**Louann Shrader**, Omega  
205 Oak Hill Circle  
Hanover, PA 17331  
(H) 717-632-6023 (cell) 717-873-1378  
[lshrader@embarqmail.com](mailto:lshrader@embarqmail.com)



### 1st Vice-President

**Kay Stuart**, Pi  
1307 Hunter Road  
Knoxville, PA 16928  
(H) 814-326-4446 (cell) 570-418-0052  
[estuart001@stny.rr.com](mailto:estuart001@stny.rr.com)



### 2nd Vice-President

**Tracey Dusch**, Psi  
316 Broad Street  
Brockway, PA 15824  
(H) 814-265-0877 (cell) 814-771-7773  
[trae917@brockwaytv.com](mailto:trae917@brockwaytv.com)



### Recording Secretary

**Patricia Shedlock**, Nu  
1381 Jessica Drive  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717-865-5615  
[mpshed@comcast.net](mailto:mpshed@comcast.net)



### Corresponding Secretary

**Barbara Gasperini**, Alpha Upsilon  
131 Whistle Drive  
Harrison City, PA 15636  
724-744-2579  
[BarbeeMG@aol.com](mailto:BarbeeMG@aol.com)



### Immediate Past President

**Susan Stamm**, Lambda  
2 Staffordshire Court  
Grove City, PA 16127-4454  
724-748-5326  
[sstamm@zoominternet.net](mailto:ssstamm@zoominternet.net)



### Treasurer

**Linda O'Connor**, Omega  
1 Winding Drive  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-476-0969  
[oconnorl@embarqmail.com](mailto:oconnorl@embarqmail.com)



### Parliamentarian

**Patricia Crouse**, Kappa  
11253 Hickory Run Road  
Orrstown, PA 17244  
717-532-6772  
[pcrouse@pa.net](mailto:pcrouse@pa.net)



### Committee Chairs 2011-2013 Society Business

#### Finance

**Kathy Kuzmiak**, Chi, **Chair**  
1819 Windsong Lane  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
717-299-3458  
[Kkuzmiak@aol.com](mailto:Kkuzmiak@aol.com)

Royce Boyd, Alpha Beta  
526 East Watson Street  
Bedford, PA 15522  
814-623-6562  
[rboyd@cksd.k12.pa.us](mailto:rboyd@cksd.k12.pa.us)

Barbara Giuffrida, Beta Pi  
823 Richards Road  
Wayne, PA 19087  
610-783-7788  
[bgiuffrida1@comcast.net](mailto:bgiuffrida1@comcast.net)

Joyce Kerrick, Alpha Zeta  
RR 1 Box 268  
Towanda, PA 18848  
570-265-6952  
[kerrickj@lackawanna.edu](mailto:kerrickj@lackawanna.edu)

Joan McGreevey, Alpha Beta  
P.O. Box 52,  
Fishertown, PA 15539  
814-839-4731  
[Mcgreevey4021@yahoo.com](mailto:Mcgreevey4021@yahoo.com)

#### Leadership Development

**Dr. Lyn Schmid**, Chi, **Chair**  
1455 Hammock Way  
Lancaster, PA 17601  
717-299-9511  
[mschmid@supernet.com](mailto:mschmid@supernet.com)

Royce Boyd, Alpha Beta  
524 E. Watson Street  
Bedford, PA 15522  
814-623-6562  
[rboyd@cksd.k12.pa.us](mailto:rboyd@cksd.k12.pa.us)

Carolyn Sutton, Alpha Upsilon  
122 North Atlantic Ave.  
Cheswick, PA 15024-1502  
724-274-7294  
[clsutton21@msn.com](mailto:clsutton21@msn.com)

Dr. Bette Bertram, Omega  
136 Pine Run Road  
New Oxford, PA 17350  
717-515-0041  
[bbertram@yssid.org](mailto:bbertram@yssid.org) (w)  
[beejbertram@embarqmail.com](mailto:beejbertram@embarqmail.com)

#### Membership/Expansion

**Tracey Dusch**, Psi, **Chair**  
316 Broad Street  
Brockway, PA 15824  
814-265-0877  
[trae917@brockwaytv.com](mailto:trae917@brockwaytv.com)

Rose Ann Fulena, Alpha Sigma  
1015 Charles Drive  
New Castle, PA 16101  
724-971-4599  
[ra\\_fulena@union.k12.pa.us](mailto:ra_fulena@union.k12.pa.us)

Betty Grossheim, Alpha Upsilon  
228 Claremont Dr.  
Lower Burrell, PA 15068  
724-335-0988  
[sophiesmom1991@yahoo.com](mailto:sophiesmom1991@yahoo.com)

Terri Landis, Beta Delta  
2866 Sparrow Drive  
York, PA 17408  
717-792-6532  
[tblandis@yahoo.com](mailto:tblandis@yahoo.com)

Judy Schaffer, Alpha Upsilon  
2849 Edgecliff Road  
Lower Burrell, PA 15068  
724-337-8043  
[judlees@hotmail.com](mailto:judlees@hotmail.com)

Grace Schauer, Pi  
495 Lake Drive Road  
Westfield, PA 16950  
814-628-2125  
[schauer@hughes.net](mailto:schauer@hughes.net)

Gisele Siebold, Chi,  
1874 Manor Ridge Drive  
Lancaster, PA 17603-4447  
717-481-8766  
[lunaangeldancer@msn.com](mailto:lunaangeldancer@msn.com)

Nominations

**Susan Stamm**, Lambda, **Chair**  
2 Staffordshire Court  
Grove City, PA 16127-4454  
724-748-5326  
[sstamm@zoominternet.net](mailto:sstamm@zoominternet.net)

Carol Herbert, Alpha Sigma  
2 West Meyer Street  
New Castle, PA 16105  
724-658-4763  
[cherbert804@yahoo.com](mailto:cherbert804@yahoo.com)

Eileen Little, Chi  
3643 Falcon Court  
Mountville, PA 17554  
717-285-5587  
[selittle@embarqmail.com](mailto:selittle@embarqmail.com)

Nikki McWilliams, Lambda  
38 Morning Song Lane  
Grove City, PA 16127  
814-786-0104  
[nikkimcw@gmail.com](mailto:nikkimcw@gmail.com)

Patricia Crouse, Kappa  
11253 Hickory Run Road  
Orrstown, PA 17244  
717-532-6772  
[pcrouse@pa.net](mailto:pcrouse@pa.net)

Susan Tonzetich, Sigma  
391 Hardscrabble Lane  
Lewisburg, PA 17837  
570-523-3816  
[tonzetich@bucknell.edu](mailto:tonzetich@bucknell.edu)

Patricia Zinger, Theta  
503 Church Street  
Carnegie, PA 15106  
412-279-5737  
[P101Z@comcast.net](mailto:P101Z@comcast.net)

Rules

**Suzanne Long**, Beta Theta, **Chair**  
4029 Concord Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17109  
717-545-0965  
[LongSuz@aol.com](mailto:LongSuz@aol.com)

Tammy Deardorff, Beta Kappa  
285 Carrolls Tract Road  
Fairfield, PA 17320  
717-642-0150  
[deardorfftm@comcast.net](mailto:deardorfftm@comcast.net)

Louise Garverick, Beta Kappa  
117 Artillery Drive  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-334-8881  
[artillery117@hotmail.com](mailto:artillery117@hotmail.com)

Carol Herbert, Alpha Sigma  
2 West Meyer Street  
New Castle, PA 16105  
724-658-4763  
[cherbert804@yahoo.com](mailto:cherbert804@yahoo.com)

Wanda Keller, Iota  
830 Fernwood Place  
Johnstown, PA 15905-2824  
814-242-7430  
[Wkeller879@atlanticbb.net](mailto:Wkeller879@atlanticbb.net)

Jeannette Thomas,, Nu  
1103 Mine Road  
Lebanon, PA 17042-8947  
717-964-3402  
[dandjthomas1@comcast.net](mailto:dandjthomas1@comcast.net)



Communications  
(includes committee members,  
State Photographer,  
Keystonian Editor,  
and Webmaster)

**Kate Chronister**, Omega, **Chair**  
27 Birch Drive  
Hanover, PA 17331  
240-357-0601  
[kate\\_chronister@yahoo.com](mailto:kate_chronister@yahoo.com)

Loretta Baran, Alpha Iota  
(Reader)  
3833 Station Road  
Erie, PA 16510  
814-899-8393  
[lrb536@aol.com](mailto:lrb536@aol.com)

Joan Peters, Beta Rho  
(Reader)  
509 Lakeview Drive  
Kingsley, PA 18826  
570-434-2629  
[chuchee@nep.net](mailto:chuchee@nep.net)

Mary VanLieu, Delta  
(Reader)  
18 Shackletown Road  
Bloomsbury, New Jersey 08804  
908-995-7919 (h)  
908-246-9020 (c)  
[maryvanlieu@gmail.com](mailto:maryvanlieu@gmail.com)

Fern Detwiler, Beta Pi  
84 Bonnie Brae Road  
Spring City, PA 19475  
610-983-0146  
[FLDETWILER@comcast.net](mailto:FLDETWILER@comcast.net)

Julie Shrader, Omega  
207 Maple Avenue  
Hanover, PA 17331  
717-632-8264  
[jshrader@nycsd.k12.pa.us](mailto:jshrader@nycsd.k12.pa.us)

Kristen Reynolds, Beta Kappa  
2973 Constellation Drive  
Chambersburg, PA 17202

**State Photographer**

Carol Kruskie, Sigma  
1626 W. Walnut Street  
Coal Township, PA 17866  
570-644-1744  
[ckruskie@aol.com](mailto:ckruskie@aol.com)

**Keystonian Editor**

Bonnie Barnes, Alpha Sigma  
504 E. Maitland Lane  
New Castle, PA 16105-1420  
724-654-8390  
[iberrylady@aol.com](mailto:iberrylady@aol.com)

**Webmaster**

Tammy Miller, Alpha Beta  
1035 Ellis Road  
Schellsburg, PA 15559  
814-733-4174  
[tjmiller@embarqmail.com](mailto:tjmiller@embarqmail.com)

**SOCIETY MISSION  
and PURPOSES**

**Program of Work for  
Educational Excellence  
(POW/EEC)**

Kay Stuart, Pi, **Chair POW/EEC**  
1307 Hunter Road  
Knoxville, PA 16928  
814-326-4446  
[estuart001@stny.rr.com](mailto:estuart001@stny.rr.com)

**Projects Co-Chair and  
Personal Growth Co-Chair**

Karen Ball, Psi  
P.O. Box 225  
Brockway, PA 15825  
814-328-2056  
[ball2056@windstream.net](mailto:ball2056@windstream.net)

**Projects Co-Chair and  
US Forum Chair**

Liz Brewer, Sigma  
P.O. Box 249  
Riverside, PA 17868  
570-275-1736  
[ealb@earthlink.net](mailto:ealb@earthlink.net) (h)  
[lbrewer@wrsd.org](mailto:lbrewer@wrsd.org) (w)  
717-729-9006

**Visual & Performing Arts  
Chair**

Shirley Newhart, Beta Theta  
921 Butler Court  
Hummelstown, PA 17036  
717-566-3988 (cell) 717-439-3043  
[snewhart@comcast.net](mailto:snewhart@comcast.net)

**Professional Affairs Chair  
and Personal Growth Co-  
Chair**

Linda Nickerson, Alpha Zeta  
Box 102  
Troy, PA 16947  
570-297-2857  
[lnick@ptd.net](mailto:lnick@ptd.net)

**POW/EEC Committee  
Members**

Beth Becker, Omega  
5 Westerly Drive  
Littlestown, PA 17340  
717-359-9701  
[beckerb@lasd.k12.pa.us](mailto:beckerb@lasd.k12.pa.us) (w)  
[beckerb4@embarqmail.com](mailto:beckerb4@embarqmail.com) (h)

Regina Campbell, Phi  
16 Trails End Road  
Honesdale, PA 18431  
570-729-7044  
[campxx@verizon.net](mailto:campxx@verizon.net)

Barbara Clark, Psi  
2064 Cemetery Hill  
Brockway, PA 15824  
814-265-8264  
[clarkpsu@hotmail.com](mailto:clarkpsu@hotmail.com)

Sharon Herzog, Phi  
101 White Tail Place  
Honesdale, PA 18431  
570-253-5294  
[mathsharon314@gmail.com](mailto:mathsharon314@gmail.com)

Carol Lane, Alpha Zeta  
503 West Main Street  
Troy, PA 16947  
570-297-2617  
[clane@epix.net](mailto:clane@epix.net)

Linda Lubben, Delta  
2109 Bally Drive  
Northampton, PA 18067  
610-262-3228 (cell) 610-417-8069  
[llubben@hotmail.com](mailto:llubben@hotmail.com)

Susan Ransom, Pi  
205 N. Genesee Street  
Genesee, PA 16923  
814-228-3627  
[suegar@frontiernet.net](mailto:suegar@frontiernet.net)

Marcia Sharpe, Beta Theta  
Box 92  
Hummelstown, PA 17036  
717-566-6569 (cell) 717-580-5862  
[marcys2@aol.com](mailto:marcys2@aol.com)

Amy Miehl, Gamma  
1827 W. 37<sup>th</sup> Street  
Erie, PA 16508  
814-866-0127  
[amymiehl@earthlink.net](mailto:amymiehl@earthlink.net)

**U S Forum**

Liz Brewer, Sigma, **Chair**  
P.O. Box 249  
Riverside, PA 17868  
570-275-1736  
[ealb@earthlink.net](mailto:ealb@earthlink.net) (h)  
[lbrewer@wrsd.org](mailto:lbrewer@wrsd.org) (w)

**Scholarship**

Lois Brown, Chi, **Chair**  
2458 Raleigh Drive  
Lancaster, PA 17601  
717-569-4984  
[clbfour@verizon.net](mailto:clbfour@verizon.net)

Mary Ellen Blazejewski, Tau  
15 Somerset Drive  
Hanover Township, PA 18706  
570-822-8099  
[meb0324@ptd.net](mailto:meb0324@ptd.net)



Gayle Goltra, Nu  
904 South Third Avenue  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
717-274-8626  
[gayliegirl@verizon.net](mailto:gayliegirl@verizon.net)

Melody Hannegan, Alpha Xi  
946 Broadmeadow Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237  
412-367-0140  
[viatoretis@comcast.net](mailto:viatoretis@comcast.net)

Sandi Klingensmith, Upsilon  
185 White Oak Drive  
New Kensington, PA 15068  
724-339-4749  
[sandik4749@yahoo.com](mailto:sandik4749@yahoo.com)

Donna Winch, Beta Theta  
1060 Woodridge Drive  
Middletown, PA 17057-3180  
717-939-2237  
[winch@comcast.net](mailto:winch@comcast.net)

#### **World Fellowship**

**Polly Delaney, Alpha Rho, Chair**  
831 Charles Street  
Luzerne, PA 18709  
570-283-0365  
[dkgpapolly@yahoo.com](mailto:dkgpapolly@yahoo.com)

Joan Glass, Delta  
803 South Ott Street  
Allentown, PA 18103  
610-434-9027  
[jglass803@rcn.com](mailto:jglass803@rcn.com)

Haddie Weber  
1009 Broughton Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236  
412-655-3469  
[haddieweber@comcast.net](mailto:haddieweber@comcast.net)

#### **State Achievement Award**

**Carol Hartley, Chi, Chair**  
924 Marietta Avenue  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
717-393-5797  
[hartleys@verizon.net](mailto:hartleys@verizon.net)

Diana Leppo, Omega  
2608 Pleasant Hill Road  
Hanover, PA 17331  
717-633-7407  
[bbddleppo@embarqmail.com](mailto:bbddleppo@embarqmail.com)

Cindy Reynolds, Beta Rho  
5133 Owego Turnpike  
Kingsley, Pa 18826  
570-222-4665  
[hodel84@nep.net](mailto:hodel84@nep.net)

Molly Spinney, Lambda  
150 West Vine Street  
New Wilmington, PA 16142  
724-946-2557  
[mspinney@westminster.edu](mailto:mspinney@westminster.edu)

Terri Stetler, Eta  
5795 B Crone Road  
Dover, PA 17315  
717-292-2127  
[TRStetler@aol.com](mailto:TRStetler@aol.com)

#### **SPECIAL STATE COMMITTEES**

**Convention Coordinator**  
**Deanna Stegeman, Omega**  
P.O. Box 292, 52 Franklin Street  
Biglerville, PA 17307  
717-677-8523  
[dstegema@embarqmail.com](mailto:dstegema@embarqmail.com)

#### **Convention Treasurer**

**Barbara Tobias, Nu**  
2165 Long Lane  
Lebanon, PA 17046  
717-273-0585  
[batobias7@verizon.net](mailto:batobias7@verizon.net)

#### **Convention Protocol**

**Barbara Hartle, Beta Xi**  
5439 West Buffalo Run Road  
Port Matilda, PA 16870  
814-861-4544  
[bwh117@psu.edu](mailto:bwh117@psu.edu)

**Mary California, Beta Xi**  
2357 Setter Run Lane  
State College, PA 16801  
814-238-4694  
[mcalif@comcast.net](mailto:mcalif@comcast.net)

#### **Historical Records**

**Barbara Emmer, Psi, Chair**  
526 First Street  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-375-9660  
[bookeiwoman@comcast.net](mailto:bookeiwoman@comcast.net)

Sharon O'Connell, Omega  
240 Third Street  
Hanover, PA 17331  
717-637-3763  
[connells@sgasd.org](mailto:connells@sgasd.org)

Anne Ratay, Beta Kappa  
890 Sheman Drive  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
717-334-3687  
[iratay@supernet.com](mailto:iratay@supernet.com)

Dee Stout, Beta Xi  
206 Canterbury Drive  
State College, PA 16803  
814-238-4855  
[deestout15@yahoo.com](mailto:deestout15@yahoo.com)

Charlot Stoughton, Alpha Epsilon  
P.O. Box 371  
Eldred, PA 16731-0371  
814-225-3359  
[Johnandchar102@aldelphia.net](mailto:Johnandchar102@aldelphia.net)

#### **75th Ad Hoc Committee**

##### **Co-Chairs:**

**Barb Emmer**  
[bookiewoman@comcast.net](mailto:bookiewoman@comcast.net)  
**Louann Shrader**  
[lshrader@embarqmail.com](mailto:lshrader@embarqmail.com)

Tracey Dusch  
[trae917@brockwaytv.com](mailto:trae917@brockwaytv.com)  
Barb Rankin  
[BMRMUSIC@AOL.COM](mailto:BMRMUSIC@AOL.COM)  
Cindy Reynolds  
[hodel84@nep.net](mailto:hodel84@nep.net)  
Carolyn Sutton  
[clsutton21@msn.com](mailto:clsutton21@msn.com)

#### **Strategic Action Plan Ad Hoc Committee**

**Susan Stamm, Chair**  
[sstamm@zoominternet.net](mailto:ssstamm@zoominternet.net)  
Carol Herbert  
[cherbert804@yahoo.com](mailto:cherbert804@yahoo.com)  
Karen Matis  
[matisk1@comcast.net](mailto:matisk1@comcast.net)



## NOTES from the State Treasurer:

### 2011-2012 Dues and Fees:



#### Active - \$58

(or \$57.40 for designated chapters).

This includes \$40 International, \$17 State, \$1 (or \$.40) Scholarship.

*Chapter dues are added to this amount.*

#### Reserve - \$28

(or \$27.40 for designated chapters).

This includes \$20 International, \$7 State, \$1 (or \$.40) Scholarship.

*Chapter dues are added to this amount.*

## IRS Reporting:

All chapters must complete a 990N e-postcard for the IRS.

Reporting deadline: **November 15, 2011.**

A copy of the acceptance email should be forwarded to Linda O'Connor at:

[oconnorl@embarqmail.com](mailto:oconnorl@embarqmail.com)

Please make sure that the dates for your year are July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. If the dates are wrong or you experience problems with the process, please contact Linda O'Connor, Alpha Alpha State Treasurer.



NEW

## Torch Bearer Award

As Alpha Alpha State looks forward to the celebration of its 75th anniversary year in 2012, the Society reflects on the many golden moments of the past. We have been blessed with leaders who have strengthened our organization with dedicated services and remarkable achievements. Likewise, the membership has diligently supported the causes, the missions, and the visions of these women with hard work. Our history is rich with accomplishments and honors.



It is fitting at this time that our society looks forward to its future. What is its direction? What are the new opportunities? Who will lead us to them? We need to take to heart our Society's theme: "Embracing Our Vision; Designing Our Future."

The ad hoc 75th Anniversary Committee is seeking nominations from chapters for the new **Torch Bearer Award**. **This award recognizes Alpha Alpha State's younger members who are making contributions to the Society by being active through their participation in various ways.** This is an opportunity for local chapters to acknowledge a member that is 40 years of age or younger who is making a difference in their organization.

Those nominated must plan to attend next year's Alpha Alpha State Convention on June 8 -10. In addition to the actual torch award, there is a special prize for the winner.

The nomination form is available on-line at [deltakappagamma.org/PA](http://deltakappagamma.org/PA). Nominations should be completed by **April 1, 2012** and mailed or emailed to:

Barb Emmer  
526 First Street  
DuBoise, PA 15801

[bookiewoman@comcast.net](mailto:bookiewoman@comcast.net)

The **Pennsylvania Night Celebration** kicked off the conference where the best food and fare the Keystone State had to offer was sampled by all! From pierogies to pretzels, meatballs to whoopie pies, Pennsylvania Night showed everyone a **"taste of Pennsylvania!"** We savored the flavors and also got a little rowdy - dancing and singing along with our special entertainers: Vicki's Tap Pups, and Dueling Pianos.



Since its beginning in 1997, Vicki's Tap Pups, based in Harrisburg, PA, has grown into America's largest adult tap group with dancers ranging in ages from 21 to 89, with a current average age of 60. The Dueling Pianos fea-



tured energetic sing along classics for all ages. Their entertaining style of inter-acting with the audience had everyone singing, clapping and partying along.

The keynote speakers throughout the conference featured prominent women from every walk of life. Writer, director and actor **Kate Campbell Stevenson** inspired her audiences with her awesome portrayals of key women in history at the Second General Session.



At the Celebration Luncheon, **Dr. Ann L. Mullen**, Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto Scarborough, shared her research and insights on the growing social inequality in American higher education.



**International President Dr. Jeni Souders** launched Friday's activities at our "Visions for the Future" breakfast. As International President, Souders was eager to share the international vision to ensure organizational success at all levels of the Society.



**Dr. Lorna Edmundson** set the tone for our Third General Session. Clearly, Dr. Edmundson was uniquely qualified to help us advance our goals of creating a global vision and designing a viable plan for our future.



Whether you like them sweet, salty or spicy, you have probably given in to the tempting smell of Auntie Anne's Soft Pretzels more than once. At our Fourth General Session, **Anne Beiler**, the founder of Auntie Anne's, explained how her business grew and prospered. Today, this hugely successful enterprise supports the Family Resource and Counseling Center (FRCC) in Gap, Pennsylvania. As she shared her experiences, Anne's message of strength, hope, integrity and the power of giving surely inspired all who attended.



Everyone who diligently worked to make this conference the best ever should be commended. Every aspect of the conference was superbly planned and executed: from the workshop sessions to the tour selections, from the favors to the table decorations, from the menus to the goodie bag choices, from the program to the daily newsletters, everyone who attended the 2011 Northeast Regional Conference came away with the feeling that they were special and treated like royalty.



NERC Fun and More Photos....





## STATE RULES COMMITTEE UPDATE

by Suzanne Long



In the 2011-2013 Biennium, the Alpha Alpha State Rules Committee will continue the work begun in 2010-2011 to adapt the Alpha Alpha State By-Laws and Standing Rules to the 2010 DKG International Constitution and Standing Rules. As state president Louann Shrader and the state officers and committee chairmen experiment with possible ways to streamline our committee structure and conserve our financial resources, the Rules Committee will make it a priority to keep our state documents and our actual practice compatible with each other.

Chapter presidents and parliamentarians should be aware that it is not necessary for chapters to change their rules to reflect committee structure changes in the International Constitution. The Rules Committee urges all chapters to give Alpha Alpha State time to see how the new structure works and pass along the lessons learned. If you have questions, please contact me at [LongSuz@aol.com](mailto:LongSuz@aol.com) and use DKG in the subject line.

Copies of the 2010 DKG International Constitution can be purchased from Amazon.com and transmitted to your Kindle. A royalty will be paid by Amazon to DKG for each copy of the Constitution/Standing Rules sold.

The revised Handbook should be available sometime next year. As in the past, the Handbook will be a guide to assist members with the interpretation and implementation of our Society's documents.

Finally, please remember that **October 15, 2011 is the deadline for submitting proposed amendments or changes to the State By-Laws and Standing Rules. All proposals must contain the Proposal, the Rational and the Fiscal Impact. Proposals can be mailed to me or e-mailed to me by the deadline. These proposals will be considered at the 2012 State Convention in State College.**

## LEGISLATIVE HEARTBEAT

By Elizabeth Brewer, U.S. Forum Liaison



### The Forums relate directly to Purposes 4 and 7 of our Society.

#### U.S. Forum

The role of the U. S. Forum is to disseminate information in a non-partisan position. This service will enable members to easily obtain information pending federal legislation in order to contact legislators and thereby becoming advocates for women, children and education.

#### The U.S. Forum & National Legislative Seminar

>The Seminar will be held in Washington, D.C. on March 18-21, 2012 at the Comfort Inn, Pentagon City. The tours are set and great speakers are being invited. The cost of the hotel is half of what it was in 2010 and includes a dinner and complimentary breakfasts at the hotel. We will be going "up on the Hill" to lobby on issues with our Senators and members of Congress. (It is an exciting experience!) Check out the US Forum website on the DKG website for the registration form.

>The surveys that were completed this summer at the 4 regional US Forum meetings throughout the US have been compiled and the results have formed the issues that we will focus on in this biennium. Issues include ESEA, Maintaining Social Security and Medicare, Pay Equity, and Women and Children's Health Issues, and Human Trafficking.

#### The U.S. Forum and NERC

>At the Northeast Regional Conference 2 resolutions were adopted by the attendees at the US Forum.



The first resolution was to **"Preserve Social Security."** The second resolution, proposed by Alpha Sigma State (WA) and adopted at NERC was to **"Promote the Arts in Schools."** These resolutions are on the US Forum webpage of the DKG site. Chapters are encouraged to support these resolutions by presenting programs on them and writing to local, state and federal lawmakers. Additional information will be shared throughout the year, as well as in the newsletter, [*Usforuminfo*] *Forum Connection* which can be found on the US Forum website.

## U.S. Forum, Legislators and Chapter Meetings

>Please note that when writing to any lawmaker it is best to write it in one's own words and to tell our story. Emailing it to them is also the best way to get to them. They are less likely to read or even look at generically prepared emails. Also letters mailed to Washington, DC. are detoured to the Midwest to be eradicated before getting to the Senators and members of Congress. Consider a letter writing campaign at one or at each of your chapter meetings during the year.

>As we are well aware, last year was a very grueling year for us as educators. PSEA has 2 powerful documents that provide us with positive positions on how we can advocate for our students and our profession. Additionally they state how we are able to collaborate with parents, school boards, community leaders and policymakers. Check their website for "Solutions that Work" and "PSEA's 20/20 Vision for the Future" ([www.psea.org](http://www.psea.org)). Both of these documents would be good to use at chapter meetings.

And remember to read the newsletter [*Usforuminfo*] *Forum Connection*. Subscribe to this free monthly newsletter by sending request to [Angela.Bedenbaugh@usm.edu](mailto:Angela.Bedenbaugh@usm.edu).

**U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard 1-866-327-8670 (toll free).**

<http://www.house.gov/> (House of Representatives)

<http://www.senate.gov/> (U.S. Senate)

### U.N. Forum

**The role of the U.N. Forum is to inform members of the work of the United Nations Department of Public Information and The Economic and Social Council as it works on advocates for women, children and education.**

### The U.N. FORUM at NERC

>Five DKG Sisters who are our UN Representatives provided several sessions at the NERC Conference in July. They want to post at least one of the sessions on the CTAUN webpage ([www.teachun.org](http://www.teachun.org)) so that our members have a better idea of why, what and how we are supporting the "Schools in Africa" program. Eleven countries in Africa have been selected to receive our support in order to help young female students get an education. Stated throughout the 2010 CTAUN Conference at the United Nations in New York City, was "that educating women benefits not only them and their families, but also their com-

More  
NERC  
fun at  
the info  
fair



munities and their countries!" The panel also explained that our individual chapters support more local and state causes; whereas, DKG International supports a more global initiative. "Schools for Africa" was presented to the attendees at last year's international conference in Spokane, WA, and it was adopted. Thus all DKG Sisters in all countries can support this project.

>Current "newsettes" coming out on the websites make very interesting and valuable programs for our chapter meetings.

>Millennium Development Goal # 2: *Achieve universal primary education*, has been selected to be the focus of the 2012 CTAUN Conference. Nelson Mandela's statement, "Education IS a Human Right" will be the theme of the winter event. It has been set for Friday, February 3, 2012 at UN Headquarters in New York City. This is a phenomenal event. Plan to be a part of it! Info on it can be found on the CTAUN's, Committee for Teaching about the UN, website.

> Lastly, please subscribed to the UN DKG News. Send your email address to [calb@earthlink.net](mailto:calb@earthlink.net) to be placed on the mailing.

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

by Barbara L. Gasperini

On August 5 & 6, the Alpha Alpha State Officers and Committee Chairs for 2011-2013 met in State College. President Louann Shrader welcomed those attending and thanked them for giving their time and talents in planning the new biennium.



★ Reflective memories of the recent Northeast Regional in Hershey were shared with special kudos given to Dr. Lyn Schmid, Royce Boyd, and the members of the Steering Committee.

★ The board gave the State Treasurer, Linda O'Connor, the go ahead to purchase a permit for \$100 for a license to cover the state and all chapters to conduct small games of chance (basket raffles, drawings, etc.) All members that contribute by individual checks to International funds such as World Fellowships, the Emergency Fund, Golden Gift, etc. may deduct their contribution as a charitable contribution.

★ An adhoc committee, Strategic Action Planning, was created and will be chaired by Sue Stamm to review the mission and vision of the State Organization. The focus of the Strategic Action Planning on the State level will be membership and communications.

★ Dr. Lyn Schmid was nominated for an International Office.

★ President Louann Shrader will solicit input from the Executive Board, chapter presidents, and past state presidents for the state endorsement of Dr. Hanna Fowler for Southeast Regional Director.

★ Budget/Rules-Alpha Alpha State is still working under the old by-laws. These are not yet in line with the new Finance Policies. International, after 5 years of reorganizing came up with a more streamline list of committees. Educational Excellence Committee is replacing Program of Work. States and Chapters may choose how they want their committee structured. As a state we are including POW/EEC at this time as our committee name as we go through the transition phase.

★ The Leadership Development Committee Chairman Dr. Lyn Schmid, set **March 16 & 17, 2012** to be the date for the **only Presidential Training this biennium.**

★ Barbara Gasperini, Corresponding Secretary, discussed a change in the state directory. It will be sent by email to save cost. Hard copies will be sent to those who do not have emails.

★ President Louann Shrader presented her theme based on the International's, "**Embracing the Vision...Designing the Future**" with a look at the '**Power of the Dream**' and outlined the following *goals for the biennium*:

1. Increase membership in the state by 400 over the next 2 years.
2. Support International project "Schools for Africa" and challenge each chapter to contribute \$50 per year or \$100 per biennium to the International Project.
3. Increase attendance at the State Convention to meet or surpass the 300 mark.
4. Increase the number of incoming Chapter Presidents presence at the pre-convention Leadership training.
5. Communication goals:
  - a) an increase in the usage of both the State and International websites by encouraging chapters to make their communication committee **WEB SEARCHERS** and keep the chapter abreast as to updated information on the website
  - b) explore the use of the International DKG Social Network as a means of sharing information and ideas
  - c) encourage chapters to continue to work towards getting coverage for chapter events

The 2011-2013 biennium is off to a great start with plans for the upcoming biennium:

- ★ **Creative Arts Retreat**, White Haven, PA-- April 27-29, 2012
- ★ **Alpha Alpha State Convention**, Nittany Lion Inn, State College---June 8-10, 2012
- ★ **Seminar in Purposeful Living**, Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia July 19-21, 2012



**NERC First Timers** enjoying time with some of DKG's International Officers: (back) Georgia Allen, IN, Ann Gaffney, NH, Stephanie Crush, PA, Phyllis Hickey, TX, Linda Eller, TX, Betty Cade, MD. (front) Eileen Kinahan, CT, Jane Murhpy, NJ, Corlea Plowman, Tx.



### Notice to all DKG Sisters

In an effort to embrace the opportunity to “go green” as well as reduce printing and mailing expenses, *The Keystoneian* will be offered to those of you who would prefer a digital edition instead of the traditional hard copy currently mailed to all members four times a year.

If you prefer to receive *The Keystoneian* on-line through our state website, you must provide the mailing address from your most recent issue. This address must be exactly as it appears on the last issue you received in order to match it to our mailing list. When a match is found, your name will be removed from the list and you will no longer receive a hard copy of *The Keystoneian*.

You must also provide your current email address so that when the digital edition is available, you will be automatically notified, via email, that your copy of *The Keystoneian* is on our web site.

Please send your request to “go digital” to your *Keystoneian* Editor with the subject line:  
**DKG Go Digital.**

**In order for this transition to be successful, you must provide the exact mailing address from your most recent issue of *The Keystoneian*, as well as your current email address.**

### SAVE THESE DATES:

**February 3, 2012 - CTAUN Conference  
“Education is a Human Right”  
U.N. Headquarters, New York City**

**March 18 - 21, 2012 - National Legislative  
Seminar, Comfort Inn Pentagon City,  
Arlington, VA**

**April 27 - 28, 2012 - Creative Art Retreat  
White Haven, PA**

**June 8 - 10, 2012 - Alpha Alpha State  
Convention, Nittany Lion Inn  
State College, PA**

**July 19 - 21, 2012 - Seminar in Purposeful  
Living, Arlington, VA**

**July 24 - 28, 2012  
International Convention, Sheraton New York  
Hotel and Towers, New York City**

#### FORUMS cont.

- ★ **International Convention**, Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, 7th Avenue, New York City, New York.

**Will you embrace our vision as we design our future for the  
POWER OF THE DREAM?**

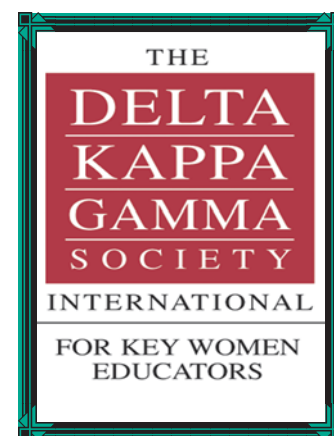
***The Keystonian***

Bonnie Lee Barnes, Editor  
504 East Maitland Lane  
New Castle, PA 16105-1420  
iberrylady@aol.com

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Use ***Keystonian*** in the subject line when emailing articles and jpeg photos.



***In Memoriam***

**Nancy M. Stefanini**  
**April 6, 2011**

Nancy gave 31 years of service to the Altoona Area School District as a teacher and reading specialist. As a member of Iota Chapter since 1971, she was active and served on many committees until her health prevented attendance.



**Laura B. Blackwell**  
**April 7, 2011**

A member of Xi Chapter since 1999, Laura was an educator for over 45 years in the Mahanoy Area School District: 12 years in a one-room school house, 20 years in elementary, and 13 years as an elementary principal. She was very active in her church, serving as a Sunday school teacher, scripture reader, and coordinator of the altar guild.