

# Alpha Upsilon Today



**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – SEPTEMBER 2022**



As the days get shorter and the autumn winds begin to blow, we see the leaves turn to their beautiful shades of red, gold, and brown. We begin to prepare for 'sweater weather' with the long cold days of winter ahead. We need to think about the autumn of our lives. We have spent many glorious days in our classrooms and created memories that bring smiles to our faces. Some of you ladies are now creating these memories in your classrooms. It is time to look inside and reflect because autumn is a time for change and rebirth. We think about planting our bulbs for the beauty they will bring us in the spring. This year we change our clocks back one hour on November 6th. As we gain that hour, we also have the opportunity to make changes in our lives and the things in which we are involved. Make time for yourself to recharge your batteries, think about your plans for spring, and think about your place in DKG. Are you living up to the oath you took when you became a member? One of our seven purposes is:

**To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members**

**And to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.**

When was the last time you invited a potential member to join us for a meeting? How about volunteering? Do you enjoy coming to our meetings but like to sit back and socialize and let others do the work? Do you feel like you have already done 'your job' so now it is up to others? Ladies, it takes **ALL** of us, working together to do the tasks of DKG. Think about it, take time this fall to reflect on the past and make changes for a better future! As you fall back in time it is a great opportunity to move forward with the life you want to live!

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## Barb's Bits & Pieces

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- Gentle reminder~ if you are planning to go on the Ghost tour at Brackenridge cemetery, your reservation and money need to be to Mary Anne Battaglia A.S.A.P!
- I have extra empty Jared Boxes available if anyone did not get one or would like another. They are due at the November meeting.
- If you were unable to attend the fall meeting and get your yearbook, please reach out to me so that we can meet up and you can get it. We are unable to mail the new yearbook.
- Fun facts About Fall:
  - Only America calls it Fall
  - Pumpkin Pie Spice does not taste like pumpkin
  - More people fall in love in the Fall
  - There are more than 7,500 varieties of apples
  - There is a candy corn day - Sunday October 30th
  - You can see the brightest Full Moon in the Fall
- **President's Project ~ Jared Boxes**
  - For my biennium President's project, I have chosen to work on the Jared Box Project. The story behind them is in 1999 a little boy, Jared McNullen, from State College, PA was diagnosed with an inoperable brainstem tumor. To every appointment, he carried a backpack full of games, books, and toys to occupy his time. He could not understand why other children did not have the same things. So, he decided to share his things with others. His favorite game to play was UNO. At 5 years old, he demonstrated faith, wisdom, and compassion for others. Jared's battle ended in November 2000 while listening to his favorite song "You'll Be in My Heart" by Phil Collins. The mission of these boxes is to lift the spirits, entertain, and put a smile on the face of a child who receives them. A plastic shoebox is filled with games, toys, activities and encouraging notes from you. Boxes are created with love and shared with our local hospital - Allegheny Valley Hospital.



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“Find a group of people who challenge and inspire you, spend a lot of time with them, and it will change your life.” - Amy Poehler

## Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

This quote from Amy Poehler rings true to me about our chapter of DKG. Our time together has provided advice and support for me as a teacher, professionally and personally. My challenge to you is to think of others you could encourage to join our society. International provides a plan for chapters who are looking for ways to increase membership. They suggest passing out cards to our members and asking them to write the names of prospective members; a teacher you may be teaching with currently, or one that your grandson or granddaughter, niece, or nephew has been speaking highly about. Page 2 in your yearbook also outlines who can become a member of this organization for further ideas.

This information is collected and then an enthusiastic letter is sent to the prospective teacher. While this is an idea, it is not as personal as a note directly from you or an invite to one of our socials or meetings. Informational pamphlets have been made for our chapter by Mary Anne Battaglia as well as QR codes by Jenn McKay. I encourage each and every one of our members to have these on hand, so that when you have an opportunity to introduce someone to our chapter, you can provide them with something tangible to give them some information regarding our society and chapter. If you have any other ideas on boosting our membership, please do not hesitate to contact one of our membership committee members: **They include April Kopta, Barbara Gasperini, Lisa Linden, Leslie Ortman, and of course myself.**

**Pamela Derby**  
**2nd Vice President, Membership Chair**

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## **FIRST Alpha Upsilon Meeting of the 2022-2023 year**

On a beautiful September morning, the members of the Alpha Upsilon Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met for the first meeting of the new biennium. The location was the lovely, restored Bloser Mansion in New Kensington. Twenty-one sisters and two guests enjoyed a delicious breakfast buffet. Before the meeting, the Finance Committee members hosted a used purse and jewelry sale to benefit the Grant-in-Aid.

The main item of business was the approval of the budget for the 2022-2023 year. President Barbara Summers expressed her goal of having a meeting or social each month. She reported that this plan was put into effect in July with a social gathering at the Wooden Door Winery, followed by an August movie outing to see, "Where the Crawdads Sing." Our October outing will be a Ghost Tour at the Prospect Cemetery in Brackenridge on Thursday, October 13 at 6:50 p.m.

Alpha Upsilon members in attendance were excited to receive the new yearbooks! The officers decided to return to a 3-ring binder to make it easier to edit pages when necessary. Each sister will be asked to keep her binder; revised pages will be distributed each year.

Kudos to the Program/Social Committee for having an informative and entertaining presentation by Nicole Vigilante, owner of Trovo Company in downtown New Kensington. She narrated her story of the origin of this business which sells vintage items and some new décor items.

**Submitted by: Carolyn Sutton**

**Recording Secretary**

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## MONEY MATTERS

The 2022-2023 budget for Alpha Upsilon Chapter was recently passed at our September 17, 2022 meeting held at the Blosser Mansion. We projected 33 members paying dues. Out of this number, 22 of us are paying the full amount of \$107.00.

Our bylaws give those of us over the age of 70 the option of paying the reduced amount of \$87.00. This option is not a mandate if we attain the magic year of 70. Select this amount only if you need a financial reduction. Many of us have selected to pay the regular amount to help the chapter move forward.

Here is the current dues breakdown:

REGULAR	SENIOR REDUCTION
\$107.00	\$87.00
- 40.00 International Dues	- 40.00 International
\$67.00	\$47.00
- 17.00 State Dues	- 17.00 State Dues
\$50.00	\$30.00
- 2.00 Scholarship/World F.	- 2.00 Scholarship/World F.
<b>\$48.00 Chapter Funds</b>	<b>\$28.00 Chapter Funds</b>

To function, **your Financial Committee**, Judy Schaffer, Sue Hilty, Marsha Ewing, Carolyn Sutton, and Betty Grossheim, is charged with doing fundraising to balance our budget. **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

Support **the DKG BOUTIQUE** sale at each of our regular meetings. The September store offered new or gently used purses and jewelry, raising \$184.00.

We are also offering a holiday gift card sale. Forms are available via Barb Summers with a **deadline of October 13**. **Copy of the Scrip Order Form is attached to this newsletter. Return to Barb Summers with check and order form.**

These two fundraisers begin our challenge of raising money for a Chapter scholarship.

If you have an idea for a Boutique sale, please contact any of the committee.

**Submitted by Judy Schaffer**

**Financial Chair**

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## Treasurer's Report

Income: **\$1,320.00**

Expenses since last report: **\$4,251.17 (includes Grant-in-Aid)**

Checking Account balance: **\$3,942.47**

Savings Account balance: **\$5,325.63**

**Submitted by: Sue Hilty**

**Alpha Upsilon Treasurer**



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## Book Choice for the Month

The Book Club meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

Book Club – Chairperson, Mary Beth Yeamans announced the books that the club has/will read.

**June:** True Biz by Sarah Novic,

**July:** In Five Years by Rebecca Serle,

**August:** The Metamorphosis of Becca by Jocelyn Kraemer,

**September:** River of the Gods by Candice Millard,

**October:** The Gridiron Girl by Tamara Girardi. (Tamara will be our speaker in November.)

Further, she reported that the Book Club has been shifting the location of the meetings to other places in the area.

**Submitted by: Mary Beth Yeamans**

**Book Club Chair**

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## Webmaster Report

I am continuing as chapter webmaster for this biennium. The website is in the process of being updated so that it can be approved by International Society and for the ease of use by our chapter members. There was a great deal of improvement made to the website over the summer.

I have established a **QR code** for our chapter website as recommended by our state organization. Using our phones, members can use the QR code to access **the Alpha Upsilon Website and from there, link to the PA State website and the international website. The QR code is below. Hold your phone over the image and take a picture. A link will appear. Tap the link. It should open on your phone.**

Furthermore, members, committee chairs, and officers please inform me about the dates and events of the chapter activities so that I can post them under ***Calendar of Events*** located on the website. If anyone needs assistance in working on their Profile on the International website, do not hesitate to call or email me for directions or details.



**Submitted by: Jennifer McKay**

**Alpha Upsilon Webmaster**



## **COMFORT CORNER**

**It has been brought to our attention that Greta Marie Taft's husband, Ron, has passed away. Greta was formerly First Vice President. Cards and condolences can be sent to Greta. Check with Barb Summers for her information.**

**I am hoping that all our members stay well as the Covid virus is still lingering and catching up to people who have not been infected before. Please stay cautious as you move through your life's activities.**

**If you know of any members who are in need of a little comfort message from our chapter, please inform me as soon as possible. Thank you. Mary Anne Battaglia**

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## *Dates to Remember for DKG*

**November 6, 2022, 2:00pm:** Executive Board Meeting, Barbara Summers' home

**November 19, 2022, 10:00am:** General Membership Meeting, Penn State Art Gallery Program: Tamara Girardi, author of [Gridiron Girl](#)

**December 3, 2022- 12:00-2:30pm** – Christmas Party Tea at Bloser Mansion

**March 12, 2023, 2:00pm:** Executive Board Meeting, Carolyn Sutton's home

**March 25, 2023, 10:00am:** General Membership Meeting, Penn State Art Gallery Program: Pat Grubbs, Reflexology

**April 21-23, 2023, Creative Arts Seminar**

**May 7, 2023, 2:00pm:** Executive Board Meeting, Barbara Summers' home

**May 13, 2023, 11:00am** General Membership Meeting, Program: DKG First Vice-President, Royce Boyd, Musical Entertainment from Deer Lakes Music Department

## *Corresponding Secretary Report*

Birthday Cards Sent: 13

Sympathy Cards Sent: 6

Thinking of you/Get Well Cards Sent: none

Thank you note to Sandra McCardle for donation of birthday cards

Received 6 thank you cards. (Roseann Currence, Betty Grossheim, Debra Hines (Ann Palmer's niece), Lisa Linden, Rosella Lascek, and Cynthia Lemon.

Memorial Books: \$25 (6) sent to Zelienople Public Library for Angelene Eppinger, sister of Rosann Currence,

Peoples Library, New Kensington for Ann Palmer,

Peoples Library, Lower Burrell for Dorothy Acquaviva, stepmother of Lisa Linden,

Springdale Public Library for Charles Desmone, brother of Rosella Lascek

Peoples Library, Lower Burrell for Doris Cashell, mother of Cynthia Lemon

**Submitted by: Linda Henkel**

**Alpha Upsilon Corresponding Secretary**



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## **Greetings Alpha Upsilon Sisters,**

The Social Committee gathered in late August to plan the programs and locations of Alpha Upsilon's General Membership Meetings for the 2022-2023 year. The members include **Tricia Cavanaugh, Rebecca Timlin, Roseann Currence, Cindy Lemon, Mary Beth Yeamans, Jennifer McKay, Eileen Matyas, Linda Henkel, and me.** **If you would like to join the committee, we welcome you to participate. Just let me know.**

The committee will be planning the next meeting soon and we will inform you of the details then. The date of the meeting is **Saturday, November 19, 2022**, beginning at 10:00am at the **ART GALLERY** at the **Penn State Campus**. A notice will follow soon.

We are initiating a new procedure at each of the general membership meetings which is that there will be greeters/hosts who will welcome our AU members to each meeting. A chart was developed for the purpose of asking for volunteers for each of the meetings. The responsibility entails addressing the members as they arrive, directing them to sitting and Boutique items areas, addressing any questions, and just helping members to feel welcome. If you would like to volunteer, please let me know by calling, texting, or emailing me telling me on which meeting date you wish to volunteer.

As an added element to our meetings, we have asked for volunteers to create favors for each of the general meetings. We have so very many creative people in our chapter and the Social Committee would like to tap into that resource. The favor should be something inviting, simple, seasonal or holiday themed and not expensive. The attached chart has some volunteers already listed, but feel free to join the other volunteers. Our goal for these new meeting elements is to encourage greater active participation by our chapter members at the meeting. Not to worry if something should occur that you are unable to fulfill the task, just let me know and other arrangements will be made. Thanks in advance for choosing to engage in the planning and implementation process of each general meeting.

Many thanks to **Tricia Cavanaugh, Roseann Currence, and Linda Henkel** for serving as our first greeters of the year. Also, special thanks of appreciation to **Jenn McKay** for the cookie favors and her handcrafted table centerpieces.

***Additionally, the Social Committee is preparing arrangements for our Holiday celebration of a Tea Party at the Bloser Mansion on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 12:00pm. Mark your calendars now as we gather to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season together. An invitation will be forthcoming.***

**Newsletter Editor- Mary Anne Battaglia**

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Photos from our first meeting of the year, September 17th



**Barb thanking Pam and Carolyn  
for their help with the yearbook**



**Mary Beth with our speaker for September  
Nicole Vigilante of Trovo Company who was delightful**

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Judy presenting the budget and financial report



Linda giving her update on chapter correspondence



Members participating in the business meeting

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## Member Signup Sheet to be Hostesses/ Greeters and Favor Providers At Each General Membership Meeting

( At least 2 members to serve as greeters/ hostesses at each meeting  
to greet members and at least 2 members to serve as providers of favors for each)

Dates of General Membership meetings	Greeters/ Hostesses	Favor Providers	Sign-in Table
Sat. Sept. 17, 2022	Linda Henkel Rosanne Currence Becky Timlin Tricia Cavanaugh	Jenn McKay Mary Anne Battaglia	Pam Derby
Sat. Nov. 19, 2022	Sandy Ross Mary Beth Yeamans Roseann Currence	Judy Schaffer Marsha Ewing	Pam Derby
Sat. Mar. 25, 2022	April Kopta Tricia Cavanaugh	Shelly Nicholas Lois Troiano	Pam Derby
Sat. May 13, 2023	Barbara Summers Pam Derby Speaker: Royce Boyd	Leslie Ortman	Pam Derby or her designee

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## Jewelry and Purse Boutique at the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting



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**Alpha Upsilon members checking out their new yearbooks**



**Time to eat**

**More members in attendance**

**Bloser Mansion prepared**

**Apologies to those members**

**a delicious buffet**

**whose picture we did not capture**

Order your desired gift cards that can be used personally or as gifts. DKG - Alpha Upsilon will receive a rebate from each card ordered. The cost you pay is the actual face value of the card. Place the number of cards you wish to order in the table below. Contact Barb for additional names - including Hotels.

	\$10	\$25	\$50	\$100
Ace Hardware	NA		NA	
Amazon.com	NA		NA	
Applebee's	NA			NA
Arby's			NA	NA
Barnes & Noble			NA	
Bath n Body Works			NA	NA
Bed Bath and Beyond	NA		NA	
Bob Evans			NA	NA
Boston Market		NA	NA	NA
Boscov's	NA		NA	NA
Burlington	NA		NA	NA
Cabela's	NA		NA	
Carter's	NA		NA	NA
Cheesecake Factory	NA		NA	NA
Chili's Grill & Bar	NA			NA
Chipotle Mexican Grill			NA	NA
Columbia Sportswear	NA	NA		
Cracker Barrell			NA	NA
CVS Pharmacy	NA		NA	
Dairy Queen		NA	NA	NA
Denny's		NA	NA	NA
Dick's Sporting Goods	NA		NA	
Eat n Park			NA	NA
Famous Footwear	NA		NA	NA
Get Go	NA			
Giant Eagle	NA			
Groupon.com	NA		NA	NA
Home Depot	NA		NA	
Home Goods	NA		NA	

Instacart	NA		NA	
iTunes	NA		NA	
JC Penney	NA		NA	
JoAnn Fabrics	NA		NA	NA
Kohl's	NA		NA	
Land's End	NA		NA	
Longhorn Steakhouse	NA		NA	
Long John Silver's		NA	NA	NA
Lowe's	NA		NA	
Macy's	NA		NA	
Marshalls	NA		NA	
Michaels	NA		NA	NA
Nike	NA		NA	NA
Nordstrom (Rack)	NA		NA	
Old Navy	NA		NA	
Olive Garden	NA		NA	
Outback	NA			NA
Overstock.com	NA		NA	NA
Panera				NA
Papa John's		NA	NA	NA
Pet Smart	NA		NA	NA
Pizza Hut		NA	NA	NA
Red Lobster	NA		NA	NA
Red Robin	NA		NA	NA
Ross Dress for Less	NA		NA	NA
Sally Beauty	NA		NA	NA
Sam's Club	NA			
Sheetz	NA		NA	
Shutterfly	NA		NA	NA
Starbucks				NA
Subway		NA		NA
Taco Bell			NA	NA



Talbot	NA		NA	NA	
Target					
TGI Fridays	NA		NA	NA	
TJ Maxx	NA		NA		
Under Armor	NA		NA	NA	
Vera Bradley	NA	NA		NA	
Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee	NA	NA			
Walmart	NA				
Wendy's		NA	NA	NA	
Total of cards					
	X 10	X 25	X 50	X 100	
Amount Due	\$	\$	\$	\$	= \$

Name \_\_\_\_\_