

# *Alpha Upsilon Today*



**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1 OCTOBER 2023**

**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 – OCTOBER 2023**



**Dear Sisters,**

What a great start to our first meeting to start the new year for our teachers still in service! Our AU 'community' came together, and we had a great attendance and saw some faces we haven't seen in a while. We also had a wonderful informative program on the Eagles at the US Steel facility in the Clairton Works plant. I know personally I learned so much I had never heard before! Don German was a wealth of knowledge, and you could tell he was SO proud of those eagles Irvin and Clair and spoke of them as if they were in his care.

I would also remind you that the orders for the RaiseRight (formerly known as Scrip) gift cards are due to me by October 5th. Please think about supporting this project. With the holiday season coming up they make great gifts, or you can tuck them in a drawer when you need a gift on the quick. Please make checks out to AU or DKG please and send them to me.

Also, I would like to ask you to please keep supporting my **President's Project** of the Jared boxes. The Allegheny Valley Hospital is so grateful for our contributions to the children seen at their facility. When I made the second delivery, the ER staff told me that they just had 3-4 left because they had seen so many children over the summer. So far from our members and a friend that several of us Highlands's teachers worked with, we have donated approximately 50 boxes (of which our friend has donated 24 boxes herself!). Please keep up the good work and thank you!

Respectfully yours, Barb Summers

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## **Bits & Pieces for A.U. Chairs:**

We are going to get this new year rolling for the second year of my biennium! I would like to recognize each chair and thank them for their help and support during my first year.

**1st VP and Social Chair** - Mary Anne Battaglia - Thank you for planning our meetings and social activities.

**2nd VP and Membership Chair** - Pam Derby - Thank you for stepping up to help when my technology is in a 'kerfluffle'!

**Corresponding Secretary**- Linda Henkel - Thank you for the thoughtful, beautifully written notes you send out to our members. Please let us know any time you need more cards or postage.

**Treasurer** - Sue Hilty - Thank you for always keeping our numbers running in a positive direction.

**Recording Secretary** - Carolyn Sutton- Thank you, thank you for keeping me running on the 'rails' and making sure I am keeping this 'kosher'.

**Parliamentarian** - Barbara Gasperini - Thanks for looking at the Standing Rules and the Grant-in-Aid guidelines. You always make sure to keep me 'grounded' when I want to break away from the 'norm'.

**Communications** - Roseann Currence - I appreciate your positive outlook on whatever comes your way. You are invariably a support of whatever I want to do.

**Finance** - Judy Schaffer - Your creative ideas for our chapter are a delight and you always come through for AU.

**Book Club** - Mary Beth Yeamans - Thank you for manning the 'helm' of the book club and organizing your meetings and providing the list of wonderful books you girls are reading.

As we enter our second year, let me remind you of a few things:

- I want to be included in all your committee meetings. I am an ex officio member, except the nominating committee.

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## **WHILE ON THE GRATITUDE TRAIN OF THOUGHT**

After Reading Barb's President's Message spreading thank yous all around, I decided to continue that train of thought for my article. I am indebted to the Alpha Upsilon Chapter Social Committee who helped to save the day, the September General Membership Day, on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at Puckety Church. The Committee assembled the details of that meeting day during the summer and was confident that all arrangements were in place. We then got word that our caterer had a large event on the same day and would not be able to accommodate our chapter. So, the members went into overdrive!

We agreed that with the Committee members' assistance, we could devise and deliver Plan B. The meal and menu were selected, and several sisters signed on to order and pick up all the needed items for the breakfast meal on the designated day.

The plans came to fruition on September 9<sup>th</sup> successfully thankfully. It was a pleasant setting with lots of space to move around. It was bright and cheery in the room even though the weather outdoors was rather dreary. The tables were covered in cloth tablecloths and lovely live plant centerpieces to add warmth to the room. The technology worked beautifully. There was a great deal of chatter in the room as the chapter members got reacquainted after our summer break.

At this time, I would like to recognize the members of the Social Committee who were able to contribute to the purchase of food or items and to assist in the set-up and clean up of the Faith Hall at the church. Mary Beth Yeamans, Cindy Lemon, Tricia Cavanaugh, Becky Timlin, Eileen Matyas, Sandy Ross, and Jennifer McKay. Roseann Currence (who was away during this time) These sisters stepped up when needed.

I especially want to thank Jenn McKay who was gracious enough to procure the church hall as a meeting place, created not 1 but 2 notifications to send to membership, was responsible for setting up the tables with the tablecloths from the church, got all the parts needed for the speaker to use the technology, set up the serving table with the burners and coffee/tea pots, created the centerpieces by planting live plants, and cleaned up after the meeting with assistance from members (greatly appreciated because I had a family reunion to attend.) All the while, Jenn was also responsible for setting up the funeral service going on in the church and making sure everything was ready.

Jenn, we could not have done this without your yeoman's amount of work and effort. On behalf of the sisters of Alpha Upsilon, thank you for all you did, and I am sure I have left several items out. It's called TEAMWORK!

I was grateful to Don German for his willingness to travel to us to present about the bald eagles. He gave each member a small eagle and did not take an honorarium but instead donated to Julie King for her classroom! What a gentleman!

Mary Anne Battaglia, ED. D

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## **Recording Secretary's Brief Summary of September 9, 2023, Meeting**

The members of Alpha Upsilon Chapter held the September General Membership Meeting at Faith Hall, Puckety Presbyterian Church in Lower Burrell. Twenty members were in attendance.

Judy Schaffer gave the reflection; Jennifer McKay offered the blessing; members enjoyed breakfast catered by Eat' n Park Restaurant and members of the social committee.

President Barbara Summers reported the following:

- Pennsylvania State President, Royce Boyd will conduct a Zoom meeting with chapter presidents on September 26, 2023.
- Members are asked to continue to provide items for Jared boxes. To date, 50 boxes have been donated.
- The revised yearbook pages (pp37-38) were handed out.
- Forms to order Raise Right (gift cards) were distributed and members are to return their orders by October 5 so that the cards can be distributed at the November meeting.
- Barb purchased school supplies on behalf of our chapter for Julie King's classroom and members were given an opportunity to donate to help defray the costs.

Corresponding Secretary, Linda Henkel reported **that 8 birthday cards** were sent and **1 thank you card**.

In the absence of treasurer, Sue Hilty, Barbara reported that the balance on hand is \$4391 in checking; \$5327 in savings.

Finance Chairperson, Judy Schaffer reported that there was a book sale and fall plant raffled today to benefit our Grant in Aid. Judy also asked for suggestions for future fundraisers.

Membership Chairperson, Pam Derby reported that surveys were mailed to all members concerning meeting venues and times and socials ideas/suggestions. Members are to mail completed forms to Pam.

First Vice President and Social Committee Chairperson, Mary Anne Battaglia, distributed several papers with upcoming social events. Our November 18 meeting will include the Victorian Christmas Tour and the Kerr Museum. The cost of the tour is \$13. Our meeting will be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Oakmont.

Our Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 2 at Hill Crest Country Club.

Roseann Currence reported that there are currently 6 pairs for bridge play.

Mary Beth Yeamans announced the book club choices: **September – Tom Lake by Ann Patchett; October -The Heaven and Earth Grocery Story by James McBride; November – West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge**

The Nominating Committee is looking for members who are willing to serve for the next biennium.

Mary Anne Battaglia presented a DKG flashlight to members as the favor.

The program was given by Don German of US Steel. It was an interactive presentation of Eagle Talk, dealing with the eagles' nests located near the US Steel Mon-Valley Works in Clairton, Pennsylvania

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## **JUDY'S REPORT ON FINANCE UPDATE**

Our first Alpha Upsilon Chapter Meeting was held on Saturday, September 9, at the Puckety Church Social Hall. The hall was the perfect size, had a nice kitchen, lots of parking and a bright pink bathroom.

It was a wonderful meeting with a great program on eagles, but we MISSED YOU!

Our first fund-raisers were:

Book Sale- netted \$73.00

Plant Raffle – netted \$61.00.

Gift Card Sale – submit orders to Barb Summers ASAP!

All unsold books were given to resupply local “Little Libraries”. Thanks to all Donors and Buyers!

Submit possible fund-raising ideas to Judy Schaffer for upcoming meetings.

We have planned a 50/50 raffle for November and some surprises.

If you missed the meeting, consider a fund-raiser donation to help our scholarship fund. Send donations to Judy Schaffer, 2849 Edgecliff Road, Lower Burrell, PA 15068.

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## ALPHA UPSILON CHAPTER MEMBER SIGNUP SHEET FOR MEETINGS

We are once again implementing the following chart for our 4 General Membership meetings during the year. We are looking for volunteers to address our needs for each meeting. We need 2 people for Greeters and for Favors. Notify Mary Anne Battaglia at mab202@comcast.net or call her to sign up. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

### Member Signup Sheet for Hostesses/Greeters, Sign-in Table Assistant, and Favor Providers at Each General Membership Meeting

<b>Dates of General Membership Meetings</b>	<b>Greeters/Hostesses</b>	<b>Favor Providers</b>	<b>Sign-In Table to Assist Pam Derby</b>
<b><u>September 9, 2023</u></b>	<b>Becky Timlin Barbara Gasperini</b>	<b>Mary Anne Battaglia</b>	<b>Tricia Cavanaugh</b>
<b><u>November 18, 2023</u></b>	<b>Judy Schaffer Roseann Currence</b>	<b>Cindy Lemon Betty Grossheim</b>	<b>Becky Timlin</b>
<b><u>March 23, 2024</u></b>	<b>Linda Henkel Marsha Ewing</b>	<b>Judy Schaffer</b>	<b>Cindy Lemon</b>
<b><u>May 18, 2024</u></b>	<b>Linda Henkel Sandy Ross</b>	<b>Pam Derby Kathy Westcoat</b>	<b>Kathy Westcoat Barb Farina</b>

*Dates to Remember for DKG  
Alpha Upsilon Chapter 2023-2024*

**November 18, 2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup> General Membership Meeting**

**December 2, 2023 – Alpha Upsilon Christmas Party – Hill Crest Country Club**

**March 23, 2024-3<sup>rd</sup> General Membership meeting**

**May 18, 2024 – 4<sup>th</sup> General Membership meeting**

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The Social Committee has devised a schedule of social activities for the sisters of Alpha Upsilon during the months there are no General Membership meetings. The first activity scheduled was for October and several members were going to go to the Frick Museum for an afternoon. **HOWEVER, I AM POSTPONING THE ACTIVITY UNTIL LATER IN THE YEAR,**

I was in contact with an individual several times and had sent an email posing several questions. I did not receive a response for many days until I received a note saying that individual was out on maternity leave, and I had been passed on to another person. I wrote that person an email with the questions and have not heard 1 word from her. Therefore, I will postpone the event until a later date in the year.

The enclosed page that follows is the list of activities planned by the Social Committee that will be addressed in the months between General Membership meetings in November, March, and May. We hope you will participate.





## Save the Dates!

### Upcoming DKG: Alpha Upsilon General Membership Events

- **October...** Social: Visit the Frick
- **November 18th...** Meeting: Victorian Christmas Tour at Kerr Museum in Oakmont
- **December 2...** Social: Christmas Party at Hillcrest Country Club
- **January...** Social: Bingo in Your PJs
- **February...** Social: Movie Time
- **March 23rd...** Meeting: Historian/Author George Guido
- **April...** Social: Highlands Musical
- **May 18th...** Meeting: Cyber Safety and Security
- **June...** Social: Picnic In the Park
- **July...** Social: Phipps Conservatory

Bring a friend... See you there!!!

