

Alpha Upsilon Today

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



Fall 2018

ALLLLLLLL ABOARD!!!!

I would like to thank everyone for the vote of confidence coming in as your new President. My theme for the next two years is RE-Member-Ship. I would like you to think about why you became a member of DKG? Were you as excited as I was being asked to join our society? Do you look forward to our meetings? Are you happy to reconnect with your sisters at our meetings?

Perhaps some of the harder questions are: What are you contributing to our chapter? How can you become more involved? I realize we are all so VERY busy with things we are interested in. I know myself, I ask the “age old question” How did I ever have time to work? I’m sure some of you are in that same “boat”. That is the point—without everyone stepping up and doing their share of the work, our chapter won’t thrive like days of old. I am hoping to grow our chapter in the next two years. Please think of someone you might like to invite to one of our meetings. Maybe it is someone you teach with now? Maybe a former co-worker that was never introduced to DKG? How about a niece or a neighbor that might like to get involved with us? Without everyone’s help, and the growing number of members who have resigned, will increase.

I know I have asked a few members to step up into new positions. I am so grateful to many of you who have for so many years helped and guided and filled positions of leadership; it is now time for some others to fill those shoes.

Re-Member-Ship Think about why....DKG

Barb Summers



SAVE THESE DATES

Saturday, September 15th @ 10 AM - General Membership Meeting at Faith Hall

Tuesday, October 16th @ 4:30 PM - General Membership Meeting at Highlands Middle School

Saturday, November 17th @ 11 AM - Joint Presidents Reception at DeNunzio's Restaurant in Monroeville

Saturday, March 16th @ 10 AM - General Membership Meeting at Penn State New Ken Art Gallery

Wednesday, May 15th @ 4:30 PM - General Membership Meeting at Hill Crest Country Club

Look for socials during December, January, February and April

Alpha Upsilon Officers for 2018-2019

President—Barbara Summers
First Vice President—Jennifer McKay
Second Vice President—Linda Koharchik
Recording Secretary—Colleen Sites
Corresponding Secretary—Linda Henkel
Treasurer—Susan Hilty
Immediate Past President—Sally Coyne
Parliamentarian—Carolyn Sutton

PRESIDENTIAL INSPIRATION

Get Out of the Boat

By Judy Mae Bingman

I see the look in your eyes—that look caused by unimaginable pressure and grief, that look caused by helplessness and hopelessness, that look caused by incessantly rowing a boat that isn't going anywhere. I see the look because I know the feeling.

Get out of the boat.

Days and days I felt (and feel like I was rowing a rickety boat across an ocean across an ocean of sticky muck. And, no matter how hard I pulled, it kept sucking me in.

Deep down, I knew if anything was going to change, I had to get out of the boat.

You have to get out of your boat.

Granted, there is a sense of security in the boat. After all, it seems solid, gives at least some protection at times, and seems to be moving, even if only in a circle.

But what I thought was security was actually an anchor pulling me to the depths, robbing me of confidence and equity and love and health.

Get out of the boat, I told myself. Just step out

Of course, when you do, you feel exhilarated for an instant, 'til you realize you've been in the boat so long you've forgotten how to swim. The muck is still all around you and now you don't even have a boat to keep you dry.

Swim girl. Swim hard. Get to solid ground.

For many, familiar beacons on shore from the past no longer offer any help and disappear.

For the first time, you're swimming in new territory.

But swim you must.

Get out of your boat.

Find solid ground.

Trust yourself. Trust others.

It will be alright, I promise.



AU Travels

AUSTIN IS AWESOME!

By Roseann Currence



Austin, Texas is an exciting, growing city and a great place for the DKG Convention. Many long hours were spent working on the DKG Constitution and attending breakout sessions. One of our favorite workshops was Pioneer Women of Texas where we learned of the struggles of the women in a lively and humorous way. Amid the work of the convention, we were able to enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes of Austin, including watching young Mexican dancers in colorful costumes. At the Celebration Banquet, we were energized by Cathy Daugherty, the new DKG International president, as she promotes momentum, energy and transparency to our organization.

Roseann, Barb, Marsha and Carolyn at the International Banquet on Friday

Pennsylvania State Convention

Ten members of Alpha Upsilon attended the year's state convention at which our own Barbara Gasperini served as President. This year's theme was "Circle of Membership," including "Leadership" with many workshops to educate officers about DKG procedures and "Scholarship" with the awarding of over \$10,000 in grants. "Friendship" was highlighted with keynote speaker, Christine Mabon, who discussed the meaning and significance of relationships in our lives. "Fellowship" was enjoyed by all the entire weekend, especially at the Friday night Fun Night with a cruise theme complete with prizes.

On Saturday night the ten AU members enjoyed each other at a party hosted by Barb in her room. Great times!



AU PROJECT FOR 2018-2019

PROJECT LINUS

“The best kind of sleep under heaven above, is under a blanket handmade with love.”



As I begin my biennium I have chosen Project Linus as my project. I love their mission statement: to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. Project Linus began in 1995 and they have donated more than 6 million blankets to children.

These blankets can be knitted, crocheted or made of fleece. They will be kept in our area and distributed to local hospitals, Hospice Grief camps, military families, funeral homes, police departments, Ronald McDonald house and women’s shelters. They also accept donations of card stock, fleece, flannel, or washable cotton fabric suitable for quilting. Also accepted are full or partial skeins of yarn (no wool), sewing thread and quilt batting.

I am hoping we can take part in some social gatherings and work on blankets, plus take part in the Make A Blanket Day on the third Saturday in February.

AU SOCIALIZES

Kick Off Picnic

By Jenn McKay

AU sisters gathered at Memorial Park on Thursday, August 16th for the 1st social of the year. We sampled fabulous picnic food prepared by fellow sisters and shared recipes. Stories of our summer adventures dominated the conversations throughout our shared meal. Photographer Mike stopped by to take a snap shot. Much laughter rang out as we played a few games of surprise bingo with a surprise southern caller, Jenn McKay, providing all the winning numbers. Everyone was a winner.



AU PROFILES

A Fifty-Year Member

In keeping with President Barb Summers' theme, Remember-ship, there will be a member of Alpha Upsilon featured in each newsletter. This issue highlights our member of 50 years, Carol Davis.

Carol (who prefers that name to Carolyn, which she labels her "fancy name") grew up in Oakmont and attended Grove City College. With a major in Business Education, she began teaching in Boiling Springs, then moved to Blairsville, then Oakmont and finally finished her teaching career in Fox Chapel. Carol taught Shorthand, Typing II, Personal Typing, Accounting, Business Education and keyboarding until the district had a RIF(Reduction in Force) when she was forced to retire.



Carol joined DKG in 1968, after being invited by Marge Monroe. At that time the society was a closely held secret so Carol posted a note on the bulletin board at school asking if anyone knew anything about the organization. No one did, but her father had somehow heard of it and told her to "give it a chance." Carol put on her white gloves and hat to attend her first meeting. She liked the people there and decided to stay.

Over the next 50 years, Carol served on many committees, went through the offices, beginning as Corresponding Secretary and was President of Alpha Upsilon from 1978-80. She became active at the state level, serving as State Treasurer from 1991 to 2001. As state treasurer, she was the first to put many of the state records of the 4500+ members at the time on computer. In 2001, Carol was awarded both the Local and State Achievement Awards.

Carol has many fond memories of DKG, especially traveling with her buddies, Nancy Grove, Martha Kuhn and Lavella Foster to conventions and conferences. Alpha Upsilon was known to give great parties after the Saturday night banquet to which everyone was invited. All you had to do was bring your own glass and the AU women would provide the rest. When asked about the rumor that AU members jumped on the beds at convention, Carol laughed and said that it was just a misunderstanding. To find out the true story, you will need to contact Carol.

Now, due to health issues, Carol is a reserve member. She still volunteers at the Oakmont Library's Squirrel's Nest Book Shop, after volunteering at the Oakmont Borough office for 22 years. Carol has enjoyed her time in DKG, especially the friends she would not have made otherwise. Her recommendation to everyone is to be active because, both you and AU will get more of it. "Don't always hang out with the same people as so many have a lot to offer."

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AU PROFILES (continued)

Grant in Aid Updates

In 2014 Alpha Upsilon began honoring past Grant in Aid recipients by offering a \$100.00 stipend for each of their undergraduate years if they kept in contact with us. Two of the recipients, Alyssa Dolensky(2014) and Hannah Patterson(2017) have responded.



Alyssa graduated this year with a degree in Elementary Education after spending a year of student teaching in the Professional Development School (PDS). She was hired full time to teach 3rd grade at the State College Area School District, where she student taught. Alyssa also is planning a wedding to her high school sweetheart, Evan West, on October 6th of this year. AU enjoyed the engaging letters Alyssa sent to the chapter describing her college career and we send best wishes for her future.

Hannah Patterson, the 2017 recipient, is attending IUP and has enjoyed a busy, rewarding freshman year. She took 3 courses in her major of Speech/Language Pathology and Audiology and achieved a 3.43 GPA, earning her a place on the Dean's list.

She also serves on the Resident Hall Council, where she was running for Secretary, is active in the Sign Language Club, and serves as an IUP Ambassador, which connects alumni with current IUP students. We hope to hear from Hannah next year and wish her continued success at the university.



Upcoming State Events

Purposeful Seminar—King of Prussia—October 5-8, 2018

Creative Arts Retreat—Olmstead Manor, Ludlow, PA
March 29-31, 2019

State Convention—State College, PA--June 14-16, 2019

NE Regional—Mashantucket, CT—July 30-August 1, 2019

International Convention—J.W. Marriott, Philadelphia, PA
July 7-11, 2020

Alpha Upsilon Newsletter Information

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