

Alpha Upsilon Today



Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2 JANUARY 2024

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 - JANUARY 2024



Presidents Message

Winter 2024

The start of another new year - where does the time go? I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and is now settling in for a long winter's nap!

Recently, I attended a zoom meeting held by PA President Royce Boyd. We had a nice group of women in attendance, and it was quite informative. I would like to share some of the information that we covered.

- Dr. Lyn Schmid presented ideas for the struggles of finding officers and overcoming objections for reasons not to be involved in holding a chapter office.
- She suggested running the chapter as a community, rather than having a slate of officers and using the four main officers to rotate, each taking a meeting and run it rather than leaving it up to one specific person.
- Dr. Schmid also suggested running executive boarding meetings as communities. She said the culture of our society is changing and we need to change with it to keep our membership growing.

- Under the new guidelines, we no longer need to vote a new member into our society. As soon as a person pays her dues, she is then a member of DKG. In addition an induction ceremony is no longer required. Dr. Lyn and Royce both said that a 'welcome' is more necessary than a vote.
- Another area that was covered is how younger women communicate, and that chapters need to take that into consideration. Both Royce and Dr. Lyn said that communication is either going to make us or break us.

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A few other pieces of information that were shared:

- The spring Keystonian will include information for the State Convention which is at the Marriott and how to register.
- Margie Zorn and Marcie Erickson are looking for presenters for the State Convention.
- There are some good new suggestions on the state website for fund raising to be considered by our chapter.

I will share more of these ideas at the next Executive Board meeting.

Respectfully yours,

Barb Summers

**Reasons why you should attend the State Convention:**

- 10. The convention is conveniently located at our end of the state at the Pittsburgh Marriott North in Cranberry.**
- 9. Attend some new and interesting meetings and workshops.**
- 8. Meet some old friends and create some new friendships.**
- 7. Rub elbows with our State President, Royce Boyd.**
- 6. Attend a moving and emotional Celebration of Life Ceremony.**
- 5. Shop just a short walk away from Cranberry Commons.**
- 4. Spend some special time catching up with our Alpha Upsilon sisters. (And attending the 'after' party in your pj's for some fun times.)**
- 3. Win one of the many terrific gift baskets!**
- 2. Enjoy some quality time at the indoor pool in your bathing suit with no judgement.**

And the number one reason to attend the DKG Pennsylvania State Convention is .....

**It's FUN, FUN, FUN!!!!**

# ***Alpha Upsilon Today***



**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**page 2**

**ARTICLE FOR ISSUE OF KEYSTONIAN published now on the website not the Keystonian**

**WRITTEN BY Dr. MaryAnne Battaglia and Roseann Currence**

Teachers, who are in the classroom and who are members of Alpha Upsilon Chapter of DKG, can count on Alpha Upsilon Chapter members for support. Most of the members of AU are retired. However, those members recognize the needs of teachers working today.

When AU member, Pamela Derby, needed Scholastic books for each of her students in her first-grade classroom, Alpha Upsilon members responded. Each student in Mrs. Derby's class received several books throughout that school year. When Julie King, another classroom teacher and recent new member, had her school budget significantly cut for basic supplies, Alpha Upsilon lent a helping hand by providing funds for them for her classroom. A school in Pittsburgh posted a Wish List on Amazon for the 2023-2024 school year, one Alpha Upsilon member donated supplies and equipment for that school. In addition, a recent Au program speaker heard about Julie's situation and insisted on donating his honorarium to her students. Every little bit helps!

Alpha Upsilon Sisters are a very generous group of chapter members. Making contributions to the work of teachers who continue to teach in today's classrooms provides our retired sisters with a feeling of connection to today's education.

# ***Alpha Upsilon Today***



**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**page 3.**

## **Treasurer's Report for DKG since November 18, 2023**

|                                        |                |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Balance Brought Forward</b>         | <b>5083.75</b> |
| <b>Income</b>                          |                |
| Donation                               | 20.00          |
| Gift Cards                             | 350.00         |
| Raffle Income                          | 260.75         |
| November Luncheon and Kerr Museum Tour | 564.00         |
| Christmas Party                        | 540.00         |
| <b>Expenses</b>                        |                |
| Gift Cards                             | 370.06         |
| Use of Buildings for Meetings          | 100.00         |
| November Luncheon                      | 254.60         |
| Kerr Museum Tour                       | 234.00         |
| Christmas Party                        | 540.29         |
| <b>Balance in Checking Account</b>     | <b>5319.55</b> |

# ***Alpha Upsilon Today***



**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**page 4.**

## **AU Newsletter – Secretary’s summary of November 18, 2023, meeting**

The members of Alpha Upsilon Chapter held the November general membership meeting at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Oakmont. Twenty-one members and one guest were in attendance.

Mary Anne Battaglia gave the reflection which included quotes from author and poet, Maya Angelou.

President Barbara Summers reported the following:

- Our chapter has donated 50 Jared Boxes to the Allegheny Valley Hospital
- Dates for conventions: State Convention – June 19-21, 2024, to be held at Pittsburgh North Marriott in Cranberry. International Convention – July 9-13, 2024, to be at the National Harbor in Maryland.

Corresponding Secretary, Linda Henkel reported that 8 birthday cards were sent and 2 thank you cards.

Treasurer, Sue Hilty, reported that the balance on hand is \$5083.75 in checking.

Finance Chairperson, Judy Schaffer, reported that there was a sale stocking stuffer items and a gift raffle at the meeting to benefit our grant in aid. Judy also said that there will be a Christmas Basket raffle and a 50/50 raffle at the Christmas Social.

Membership Chairperson, Pam Derby reported on the results of the member survey and those results are published in the newsletter.

First Vice President and Social Committee Chairperson, Mary Anne Battaglia, distributed reservation forms for the Christmas social to be held on Saturday, December 2 at Hill Crest Country Club.

Mary Beth Yeamans announced that the book club did not meet in November and will have a Christmas dinner in December.

The Nominating Committee is beginning to meet to prepare a slate of officers for the next biennium.

The program was a Victorian Christmas House Tour at the Kerr Museum, Oakmont.

**Carolyn Sutton**

**Alpha Upsilon Chapter**

**Recording Secretary**

# Alpha Upsilon Today



**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**page 5.**

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

### ***SCHOLARSHIP REPORT***

**Submitted by Judy Schaffer**

2024, Leap Year, is already one month old! Our DKG Chapter 2024 goal is to raise funds for our annual \$1,000.00 scholarship, given to a senior girl planning to enter college in an educational field.

Let's reflect back on the history of this goal!

In 1964, we awarded our first recorded scholarship going to Mary Christy of New Kensington. Through 1969, our chapter gave two scholarships each year. (Barbara Mason Gasperini, a graduate of Burrell was the 1966-chapter recipient.) Since then, through 2022, we have awarded one scholarship each year. 63 seniors have been supported by Alpha Upsilon Chapter, totaling approximately \$63,000.00.

Your Finance Committee (Schaffer, Grossheim, Sutton, Hilty, Ewing and Summers through various projects with your help in 2023, has raised approximately \$886.00.

Did YOU support our fund raisers by purchasing books, stocking stuffers, raffles, jewelry, etc.? If your answer is NO, consider sending a monetary donation to the Scholarship Fund. Send to the following:

Check made out to: **DKG Alpha Upsilon Chapter**

Send to: **Judith Schaffer, Chair**

**2849 Edgecliff Road**

**Lower Burrell, PA 15068**

At our upcoming March 23 meeting, here are our possible ideas:

Easter Basket Raffle

Special Easter Plant Raffle

Possible Easter Cards for sale, made by members

**The date, place, meal, and fundraisers are set, WE NEED YOU TO ATTEND!**

**Wear your Easter Bonnet and win a small prize!**

# Alpha Upsilon Today



## 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<br/>Barbara Gasperini</b> | <b>Mary Anne Battaglia</b>             | <b>Tricia Cavanaugh</b>                  |
| <b><u>November 18, 2023</u></b>             | <b>Judy Schaffer<br/>Roseann Currence</b> | <b>Cindy Lemon<br/>Betty Grossheim</b> | <b>Becky Timlin</b>                      |
| <b><u>March 23, 2024</u></b>                | <b>Linda Henkel<br/>Marsha Ewing</b>      | <b>Judy Schaffer</b>                   | <b>Cindy Lemon</b>                       |
| <b><u>May 18, 2024</u></b>                  | <b>Linda Henkel<br/>Sandy Ross</b>        | <b>Pam Derby<br/>Kathy Westcoat</b>    | <b>Kathy Westcoat<br/>Barb Farina</b>    |

### *Upcoming Dates to Remember for DKG*

#### *Alpha Upsilon Chapter 2023-2024*

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

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

**Dates for DKG State that are imperative to meet:**

**Feb. 1, 2024-Scholarship Applications**

Educational Book Award Submissions

Nancy Grove Visionary Fund Award

**Feb. 15, 2024 -Arts and Humanities Submission for Spring Gallery**

**Mar. 1, 2024 -Album of Distinction Applications**

# Alpha Upsilon Today



A general membership survey was mailed out during this past fall. Results were turned in at our September meeting. During the November meeting, it was brought to my attention that the members, in addition to the executive board, would like to see the results. Therefore, below you will find the results of our survey as of Fall 2023. I thank all who participated in the survey so that the executive board can use it as a source of discussion and planning for the 2024-2025 year and beyond. Below are the number of yes and no responses. Some women wrote a note or did not answer thus the numbers may not always be even.

## **Questions:**

Are you open to shorter, business type meetings that update you on the business of the society that do not include a meal or program?

11 Yes 12 No

Are you open to having two meetings that offer a program and meal as well as two shorter business type meetings?

16 Yes 6 No

If you would prefer a meal at our meetings, are you open to moving locations such as various restaurants or caterers coming to the meeting location?

16 Yes 5 No

Would you be interested in moving our meetings from the current months of September, November, March, and May?

3 Yes 19 NO

Would you be interested in moving our meetings to a day other than Saturday?

11 Yes 12 No

Would you be interested in evening meetings?

6 Yes 13 No



## Suggestions for Programs

Carnegie Museums - offerings for educators

Social/Emotional Learning

Tour Iron City Brewing

Serving Program - we learn about an organization then help them with their mission (TriLife, Hospice Care /Monarch)

Travel - a travel agent

Cooking class

Technology Tips

Speakers that work in our local communities that help people in need

Musical entertainment by local students

Local women newscasters - how they got started

Authors

Student suicide

Bullying and how to handle it with social media in schools

Food or drugs women should consume daily

Different occupations - warden, police officer, etc.

Game night - each member brings a game for four people (possible fundraiser)

Current educational issues

Women only speakers

New technology

Show'n Tell - something special in your life

"Maker Day" - make a card to send to a member who doesn't regularly attend meetings

Security in Schools (Kiski Area Resource Officers)

How do we know if something old is worth anything?

How can I organize all my old photos that are in boxes?

New trends in education

Members' talents and hobbies

**Pamela V. Derby**

**Alpha Upsilon Chapter**

**2nd Vice President**

# Alpha Upsilon Today



Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

page 8.

## New Year... New Look

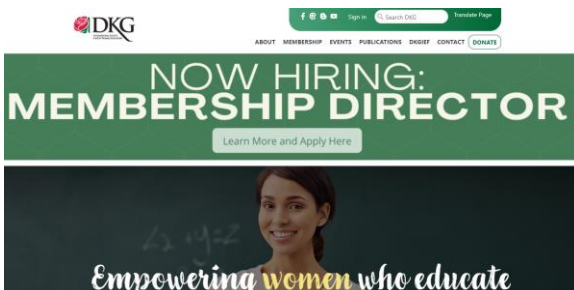
By Jennifer McKay

Each new year we make those resolutions for the upcoming year. I will... lose a few pounds... contact lost friends... update my DKG Profile on the International website. Yes, International is requesting **ALL** members to update their profile on their website and yes, they have a new look also.

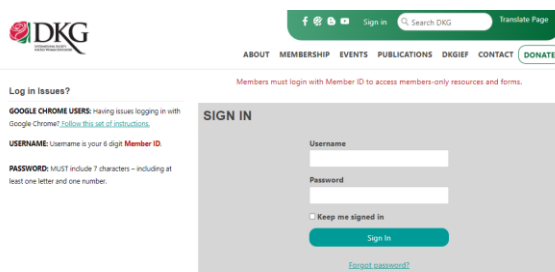
Here is a step by step guide...

Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

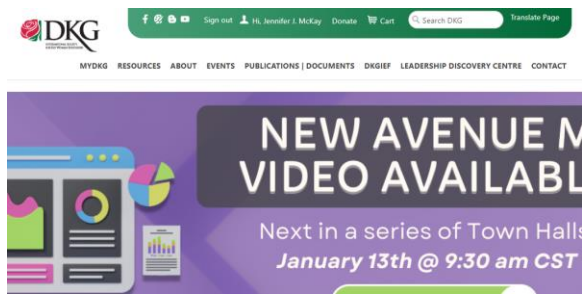
At the top (in green) select "Sign In"



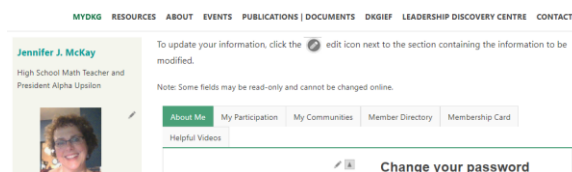
Enter your Username (Member ID) and your password. Select Sign In.



## Select "MyDKG" from the top menu



Check and update information by clicking the  icon. Be sure that email, mailing address and phone numbers are accurate. Remember to **SAVE** if you make changes.



## Checking ... My Participation:

Select if you would include your information in the Members only directory and how you would like to receive your communications from International. Click the appropriate boxes and select **SAVE**.

### Communication Preferences

Please indicate your preferences below:

- YES - Include my DKG Profile in the Members Only Online Directory
- YES - I would like to receive Email Communication from DKG
- YES - I would like to receive communications from DKG by text message.

Unsubscribe from all

## Checking... My Communities:

Explore the online communities within DKG by selecting the "Click here to join a Community". These communities link members from all over the world that share the same interests.

[About Me](#) | [My Participation](#) | [My Communities](#) | [Member Directory](#) | [Membership Card](#)

Helpful Videos

[Click here to join a Community](#)

### Items Jennifer J. McKay is Following

| Community                     | Type      | Title                                                                        |
|-------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DKG Collaborative Communities | Community | <a href="#">DKG Collaborative Communities</a> <a href="#">stop following</a> |
| DKG with a focus on the Arts  | Community | <a href="#">DKG with a focus on the Arts</a> <a href="#">stop following</a>  |

***Want to connect with a DKG sister and you forgot their contact info. As long as they have agreed to share their profile info in the directory. you can search for them via this link.***

[About Me](#) | [My Participation](#) | [My Communities](#) | [Member Directory](#) | [Membership Card](#)

Helpful Videos

You can search other DKG members who choose to share their profile.  
Please enter search criteria to narrow down your search.

Last name start with

First name start with

City start with

State

ID

[Find](#)

Please enter your search criteria to view results

***Need a copy of your membership card... with or without your photo (the photo will be the one you have uploaded to the website).***

[About Me](#) | [My Participation](#) | [My Communities](#) | [Member Directory](#) | [Membership Card](#)

Helpful Videos

[Membership\\_Card](#)

[Jennifer J. McKay](#)

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▼ [Membership\\_Card with Picture](#)

[Jennifer J. McKay](#)

New Year's Resolutions sometimes push us out of our comfort zone, but when completed are very rewarding. The International site has much to offer and multiple applications for making connections to our DKG sisters everywhere.

If you are still struggling, no worries. I am available to help you meet your goal. Please contact me to set up a date and time. Happy Exploring!!

# Alpha Upsilon Today



Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

page 9.

## 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!!!

# Alpha Upsilon Today



**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**page 10.**

Dear Alpha Upsilon Chapter Sisters.

Our second General Membership meeting was a success in many ways. Pam Derby procured our venue which was her church, St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Oakmont. It was a very nice venue which provided us with all the needed amenities that we required and added an historical element as well. The church itself was a beautiful structure and the hall served as a pleasant site for our meeting. Thank you, Pam, for making the arrangements on the chapter's behalf. The meeting was followed by an informative Christmas tour of the Kerr Museum conveniently up the street prepared for us by our member, Millie Pitman, who acted as one of our docents also. Well done, Millie. We appreciated your service to the chapter.

Moving on to the chapter Christmas Party held at the Hill Crest Country Club. The club setting was all decked out for the holidays and provided a warm and charming environment to celebrate fellowship and holiday joy for the 19 members who participated in the event. It was a wonderful opportunity for members to just spend time connecting again on a personal level. Singing and gift exchange were part of the program. It was also a great way to kick off the holiday season at the beginning of December. Next year's party will be on December 1, a Sunday, to hopefully include more members in the event. Thanks to all who joined the festivities!

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> General Membership meeting will be held on March 23, 2024 at Puckety Church.

A Social Committee activity is being planned soon.

Mary Anne Battaglia, Ed.D  
Alpha Upsilon Chapter  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

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