



Alpha Upsilon Chapter
Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
Saturday, September 9, 2023

The meeting, held at Faith Hall, Puckety Presbyterian Church, was called to order by President Barbara Summers who then led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judy Schaffer offered a reflection about eagles (based on today's program.)

The Blessing was offered by Jennifer McKay before the Eat' n Park breakfast was served.

President's Report - Barbara Summers

- A Zoom meeting for Chapter Presidents will be held with PA State Organization President Royce Boyd on September 26, 2023.
- Members are asked to continue bringing items for the Jared Boxes project. To date, 50 boxes have been donated to Allegheny Valley Hospital.
- The addendum to our chapter yearbook (pp.37-38) with important dates was given to members and an address correction for Barbara Farina's new address was given to members.
- RaiseRight (gift card) forms were available for members; members should send the form along with their payment to Barb Summers by October 1st. Gift cards will be distributed at the November meeting.
- Barb bought school supplies on behalf of our chapter for member Julie King's classroom due to her supply budget being eliminated (City of Pgh Schools.) Members had the opportunity to donate cash to defray the cost of these supplies.

1VP Report - Mary Anne Battaglia (Program): Mary Anne gave her report later under social committee.

Corresponding Secretary -Linda Henkel:

Cards Sent: 8 Birthday

1 Thank you card was sent to Sandra McCardle for providing assorted greeting cards for our chapter.

Recording Secretary- Carolyn Sutton (absent)

The minutes of the May 2023 meeting were emailed to the members.

Treasurer - Sue Hilty (Absent)

Balance in Checking: \$4,391

Balance in Savings: \$5327

Committee Reports:

Communication:

- Articles for the newsletter are due to Mary Anne by 9/20/23.
- Jenn McKay reported that the website calendar is available for members' use; any committee that wants to post announcements should send them first to Barb Summers.

Finance - Judy Schaffer

- Today's fundraising activity will be a book sale and fall plant raffle.
- Judy asked members for additional ideas for meeting fundraisers. She also mentioned that the price of our "meal/food" for meetings must start to absorb the other expenses: rental (if necessary), our program stipend, etc.

Membership: Pam Derby

- Pam reported we currently have 31 members. There were 20 members present. She reported three resignations: Leslie Ortman, Sandy Jones, and April Kopta.
- Surveys were mailed to members regarding membership and social committee ideas/suggestions. Members who have yet to complete these can mail to Pam Derby.

Social/Newsletter - Mary Anne Battaglia

- Mary Anne Battaglia distributed several papers with upcoming social events. These include meeting information, which says to notify Sue Hilty for meeting attendance and mail the checks to her, as well. She will notify the president of the numbers attending.
- Our November 18 meeting will include the Victorian Christmas Tour at the Kerr Museum in Oakmont. The general membership meeting will be held at St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 10 a.m. The cost of the tour is \$13. Our docent will be DKG member, Millie Pipman. Additional communications will be coming from the Social Committee with the cost of the meal. RSVP will be expected by 11/4/23.
- Our Christmas party will be held on December 2, 2023, at the Hill Crest Country Club and further details will be forthcoming.
- A flyer of suggested future activities was distributed which included Bingo in our PJs, Movie Time, attending a high school musical, picnic, and a trip to Phipps Conservatory.
- Mary Anne thanked Betty Grossheim for securing HCCC for our first meeting of the 24-25 biennium. Mary Anne also thanked the members of the social committee for their help and donations in coordinating the breakfast.

- Mary Anne reported that all articles for the next AU Newsletter are due to her by 9/20/23. She will collaborate with Roseann Currence on the newsletter.
- Jenn McKay reported that our chapter will rotate attending spring musicals of the school districts where we have active DKG teachers.

Bridge Flight - Kathy Wescoat reported that there are currently six pairs for bridge play. They are currently working out the schedule. Each participant will contribute \$10 to the Grant-in-Aid Fund

Book Club - Mary Beth Yeamans announced the books for September (Tom Lake by Ann Patchett); October (The Heaven and Earth Grocery Story by James McBride); and November (West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge.)

She also mentioned that JJill stores are offering a 15% teacher discount from September 7-17, 2023. The Shadyside store will honor retired teachers as well.

Unfinished Business:

Barbara Gasperini and her committee updated the Standing Rules. Under Communications, the rules will now read: *The communications committee will include an (IT) Information Technology Specialist.*

- *The newsletter, Alpha Upsilon will be published at least twice annually. The newsletter will be approved by the president prior to publication.*
- *A chapter website will be maintained in accordance with the standards established by DKG International. The (IT) Information Technology Specialist will apply for recertification as designated by DKG International.*

The Grant in Aid qualifications will remain the same. The committee will make more of an effort to verify that the high school seniors get notification of the grant and the application from the high school guidance counselor.

Betty Grossheim reminded members to consider applying for the PA State Organization scholarships. As a member of the State Scholarship Committee, she offered her guidance in the application process. Deadline for submission is February 1, 2024.

Announcements

- Barbara Summers has appointed Carolyn Sutton to the Nominating Committee
- Barb requested that committee chairs invite her to their meetings.
- Barb Summers thanked Eileen Matyas for taking the minutes today due to the absence of Carolyn Sutton.
- Jenn McKay made today's centerpieces and these were given to all active teachers present.
- Mary Anne Battaglia presented a DKG flashlight to members as today's favor.

Adjournment by Barbara Summers

Program: Mary Anne Battaglia introduced Don German of US Steel for his interactive presentation of Eagle Talk. His powerpoint dealt with the eagles nests located near the US Mon-Valley works. The presentation was followed by questions and answers. Each member was given a squishy eagle after the presentation.

Don German donated his stipend to member Julie King for classroom supplies.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Matyas