

GAMMA NEWS

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GAMMA CHAPTER

SPRING 2024

CHAPTER DUES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JUNE 15, SENT TO MICHELE KOENIG. FURTHER DETAILS ON PAGE 2

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Janet Halter, Editor

Hopefully this warm winter will not result in a cold spring. I have appreciated not having to deal with a lot of snow to clear off the sidewalk. I am still busy with closing down my parents' estate but hope to have it settled by the end of this year, if not sooner.

I wish to say thank you to all of the Gamma members who make our chapter meaningful. Judy Valentine, as Co-President, has been there to support me when I needed it. Sandie Trask-Tyler has done a wonderful job coordinating all of the meeting details. Katherine Kramer Wheeler has provided leadership through chairing the Finance Committee and keeping me on track as Parliamentarian. Dorene Henschen has the treasurer duties on track. Dorothea Fuhrman has kept us up to date on our home bound members. Janet Halter is there to send out emails as needed and prepare our Newsletters. Ellen Clark has provided an outstanding website for our chapter. Mary Cardinal and Liz Biglin have been there to take the chapter meeting minutes. Emeri Ferguson has coordinated our Grant-in-Aid applications. I appreciate everyone's efforts.

Over the next few months I will be asking members once again to help support our chapter through filling committee chairs. Let me know if there is a special committee on which you wish to serve. I know many of us are busy with new tasks that are sent our way as the needs of our family and friends change. But as teachers, retired or in the schools, we find the strength to do what needs to be done. And, as Gamma sisters, we do it with love and friendship.

Michele Koenig Co-President



MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation supports and encourages intercultural understanding and educational excellence

2024-2025 DKG Dues

Please remember that the dues deadline is June 30th. Since our March and April meetings are in person, members attending the meetings are encouraged to pay in person to avoid any issues with mailing dues. **Please make checks out to Gamma Chapter and mailed by June 15th** so the checks can be deposited by June 30th. **Active member dues are \$69.00, and Reserve dues are \$32.** If you wish to include an extra donation for Grant-in-Aid, you can do so at the same time. Make a note on the memo line accordingly. Checks can be mailed to Michele Koenig at 8190 Havens Rd., Blacklick, Oh 43004.

ALSO...

WORLD FELLOWSHIP donations can be made at the March and April meetings, or that can be included in with the dues check. Please make a note on the memo line of the check how much is going to this fund. Thank you!

Congratulations to the chapter for being recognized as earning the Gold Key award for 2022 - 2023 at the OSO award ceremony in September, 2023.



**Founders' Day
Banquet**

**Wednesday, May
8, 2024**

5:30 Registration

6:00 Dinner

TAT Restorante Di Famiglia

1210 S. James Rd.

Columbus, Ohio 43227

Hostesses: Gamma Nu and Delta Theta

Reservations can be made at the March or April meeting, or mailed to Michele Koenig postmarked by April 20th. Your choice of entrée can be written on the memo line of the check. Choices are Lasagna or Chicken Parmesan. Gluten free or vegetarian are options to each.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

The Finance Committee thanks the work of Emeri Ferguson who presented 6 teachers for Grants-in-Aid monies. I signed the Gamma Chapter Expense/ Reimbursement Forms and the Treasurer sent out the checks. Dorene Henschen has done a good job keeping our finance reports up to date and presenting the reports to the chapter members. A finance review will be done after June 30, 2024. The Scholarship monies are available to any chapter member who attends an educational workshop/meeting outside of the Gamma Chapter meetings.

Katherine Wheeler Chair

MEMBERSHIP

A special thank you to all of our members who reach out to one another even after our monthly meetings! You keep us engaged and feeling welcome. Thank you, too, for our officers: for their dedicated leadership, vision, support and energy. Our chapter has the best communicators and with the help of technology and the expertise of each member we all receive a satisfying experience. Each person has something to contribute and each person is needed. As we approach a new biennium please consider how your unique gifts and talents can be used to further assist and advance our unique chapter and its growth.

Reba Barney Chair

GRANT-IN-AID RECIPIENT REPORTING



Russell Elam

Photo from Zoom meeting

Used with permission

As a Grant-in-Aid Recipient, Russell Elam explained in our February Zoom meeting how he used his grant from the chapter. He is a teacher of industrial tech to H.S. Juniors and Seniors as well as young adults, all of whom are ASD learners. Students learn to work with tools, as well as develop relational skills with others. He told his students about the grant he received from the chapter, mentioning to them that others care about them and their success in life. A router wood-working tool motor was replaced, and cutting bits purchased. The photos here show how students work with these tools. Russell can be reached at this email address: russellelam@ccde.org



MEMBER UPDATES



Dear Gamma Sisters,

I want to thank you for all of your support during my health challenges over the past year. Your prayers, cards, calls, and flowers lifted my spirits and helped me along the way. I am doing well and am glad to be back at meetings with you all. I appreciate you all! Sincerely, **Linda Wright**

Reba Barney has a new address.

746 Kingsmead Rd

Westerville, OH 43082

Her phone number and email are unchanged from the Red Book

Joanne Katonak has a new phone number:

614-389-7300

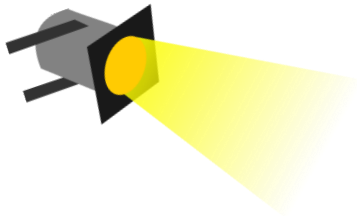
Janet Howson has a new room # 185B

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| ◆ Esther Panning | April 1 |
| ◆ Judy Valentine | April 17 |
| ◆ Katherine Wheeler | April 18 |
| ◆ Dorothea Fuhrman | May 7 |
| ◆ Ellen Clark | May 17 |
| ◆ Mary Guinther | June 12 |
| ◆ Reba Barney | June 25 |
| ◆ Dorene Henschen | July 21 |
| ◆ Martha Poland | July 26 |
| ◆ Sandra Trask-Tyler | August 1 |
| ◆ Rosemary Conroy | August 12 |
| ◆ Mary Ellen Angeletti | August 24 |
| ◆ Alida Pletcher | August 25 |

Everyone is vital to our friendship connection!

- ⇒ *Call or text a member to wish her a Happy Birthday*
- ⇒ *Send a thinking of you message to a shut-in, or a missing member*
- ⇒ *Have a lunch visit with another member*
- ⇒ *Offer a ride to a meeting, spending casual time together*

Let's be that encouragement to one another!



Above is the most recent Fluid Expression painting by Elizabeth Biglin.



Linda Ruehrmund was honored with a new frame for her photo in the Cardinal Lincoln Alumni Hall of Fame. The following is the text written about her and posted on Facebook.

HALL OF FAME HIGHLIGHT:

" Linda Ruehrmund graduated from Cardington High School in 1962 and went on to receive her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Capital University. She was employed at Columbus City Schools for her entire 30-year teaching career teaching fourth, fifth, and sixth grades over that period. She achieved her Master's Degree in Disciplinary Education from the University of Dayton. After she retired, Ruehrmund became a substitute teacher for Cardington-Lincoln Local Schools for eight years. Her community involvement has been impeccable by being an active member in the Morrow County Retired Teachers Association, Delta Kappa Gamma International Society, Chester Arbor Gleaners, and Friends of Cardington. She is a life-long member of Saint John Windfall Lutheran Church and took part in many ministries such as the Sunday School Board, Lutheran Social Services Auxiliary, and directed the church's adult and youth choirs. Ruehrmund served as the Secretary to the Executive Committee of Cardington-Lincoln Alumni Association and chaired its directory committee. " - *Esther Yake*



Michele Koenig crafted these two dog poses using acrylic paint on canvas. The one above is Bayleigh, and below is Paisley.



BOOK CORNER



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The Armor of Light.....by Ken Follett.....Historical Fiction.....Alida Pletcher

The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell.....by Robert Dugoni.....Fiction.....Dorene Henschen

The Villa.....by Rachel Hawkins.....Fiction/Mystery.....Mary Cardinal

The Flatshare.....by Beth O'Leary.....Fiction.....Linda Wright

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

In **September** the chapter had a guided tour of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, Columbus, Ohio. This place is a profound tribute to the bravery, commitment, and patriotism of all who served our country through the military, as well as detailing the history of the military through the decades.



We were challenged with a Gerrymandering activity at the **October** meeting. Gerrymandering is to manipulate boundaries in order to favor one group and is mathematical in nature. Members were instructed to draw boundaries around groups to favor a certain color within that group. Gerrymandering is used in many real-life situations impacting outcomes. This activity was taken from the Julia Robinson Mathematics Festival <https://jrmf.org> Member, Dorene Henschen, was the presenter.

In the **November** Zoom meeting three of our members, Michele Koenig, Judy Valentine & Linda Wright shared in detail their estate experiences. Namely, how to be prepared and equipped to handle all of the legality that comes with the death of a family member, especially of parents, and preparing for and addressing legal issues that come up. This meeting was very interesting and helpful.

At the **January** meeting several members shared about activities in which they are personally involved with their talents, families, recreation, or interests. There was also book sharing, and a good a time to catch up with each other via Zoom.

Stephen Spottswood was our speaker for the **February** Zoom meeting. He is the director of the Columbus Cultural Orchestra and teaches middle school music and orchestra. He shared about his work to broaden the representation of multicultural musicians within the orchestral domain through the advancement of hip-hop and jazz. More about his work can be found at ccomusic.org.



Stephen playing his violin after his presentation

Photo used with permission

Heba Beshai, along with member Dorene Henschen, spoke on Cultural Awareness at the **March** meeting. These ladies work together in ESL instruction and other church based inter-relational groupings. They spoke about the meaning of culture, cross cultural skills, and importance of being open to differences in cultures so to build bridges with understanding and an appreciation of others worldwide.

Heba Beshai on left

Dorene Henschen on right

Photo used with permission



Upcoming Meetings....

Saturday, April 13, 2024

10:00 am

**My Very Own Blanket (Note location change)
2024-25 Program Suggestions
Karl Road Library**

Thursday, June 13, 2024

10:00 am

**Induction of New Members/
Installation of Officers/ Programming
Huber Village Park**

Saturday, September 14, 2024

10:00 am

**Tour of Innis Woods Gardens
940 S. Hempstead Road**

GAMMA MEETING

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

VIA ZOOM

The February meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by co-president Judy Valentine with 13 members and two guests present.

Stephen Spottswood, a Capital graduate, presented a program about the Columbus Cultural Orchestra with its emphasis on Hip-Hop and R&B.

Grant-in-Aid recipient, Russell Elam made a presentation on how his \$100 grant was spent to get tools and other items for his students who are on the spectrum.

The chapter business proceeded at 7:45.

Thought for the Day, given by Judy Valentine, focused on the idea that we all can make a difference in the world.

The **January Minutes** were accepted as read.

The **Treasurer's Report** showed that 6 Grant-in-Aid checks were mailed out to recipients in late January. Ending balance for January in checking was \$5025.43. There was \$1662.82 in Grant-in-Aid funds available before the checks were sent out. The report was filed for audit.

In **New Business**, Linda Ruehrmund moved and Linda Wright seconded a motion to send a check for \$100 to Stephen Spottswood. The motion carried.

Friendship co-chair, Dorothea Fuhrman, reported that Janet Howson has a new room number at Storypoint and Joanne Katonak's phone number is 614-389-7300.

Membership chair, Reba Barney, did a first reading for prospective member Tia Tyler with the second reading to be done in March. Tia will be inducted at the June meeting. Members are needed for the Nominating committee.

In **New Business**, Sandie Trask-Tyler reminded us that the next meeting will be Saturday, March 9th, at 10:00 at the MCL in Kingsdale. Dorene Henschen will present a Cultural Awareness program.

Janet Halter asked for articles for the upcoming newsletter and committee chair reports to be submitted by February 21st.

Linda Ruehrmund announced that the Chalk Talk Lady will be at St. John's Lutheran Church in Dayton on May 15. Anyone interested should contact Linda for details.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cardinal, Co-Secretary