The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Ohio State Organization - DKG

Volume 50 Issue 2

Gamma Chapter

Spring 2025

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# Gamma News

gammaohio.com

Spring is just around the corner. At my house this means starting milkweed seeds for this summer's monarch caterpillars. It is a challenge to think about caterpillars when the temperature is in the 20's and I have to add bird seed midday to keep the wild birds fed. Since I am the OSO Convention registrar, I have been helping with online registrations. Unfortunately, we did not create the payment page and the link to finish payment does not look like a link. Luckily, I have people call me and I take them through the process to let them know that clicking on Pay $48 will complete the process. After March 4th when the registration closes, then the fun of printing nametags and other tasks begins.

I hope members are taking advantage of the Zoom links to online programs that are occurring from February through April. Chapter members have updates to the links to register for the programs sent to your email from OSO officers.

Stay warm,

Michele Koenig

Pictured here is the group who attended the March chapter meeting. Roses were distributed to all. In front on the table is a sampling of the items brought in as donations to CHOICES.

## 2025-2026 DKG Dues

Dues can be paid in person to Michele Koenig or Dorene Henschen, or at our June Gamma meeting. Paying in person is preferred, as the mail delivery is not as reliable as it once was. Active dues are $69.00 and Reserve dues are $32.00. Checks should be made out to **Gamma Chapter**. Members can include additional funds for World Fellowship and/or Grant-in-Aid donations. Please write on the memo line of the check how much money goes towards each collection. The amount collected for World Fellowship will be matched by the Scrivener Funds and sent to International in June. Checks need to be postmarked by June 15th so they arrive in time to make Dorene's job easier as Treasurer. Mail checks to Michele Koenig 8190 Havens Road, Blacklick, OH, 43004. * If you are including Founders' Day reservation payment the check needs to be mailed by April 15th to Michele Koenig.

## Founders' Day Banquet

Founders' Day Banquet is May, 7, 2025, at TAT Ristorante di Famiglia. Registration is at 5:30 with dinner served at 6:00pm. Menu options are lasagna, chicken parmesan, eggplant parmesan, or cheese tortellini with alfredo sauce. Gluten free pasta is available. Wedding soup, salad, dessert, and beverage are included. The cost is $28.00. Beta Lambda and Theta chapters are the hosts this year. Members can sign up for the event at the March meeting or send their checks with meal choice to Michele Koenig. <u>Mailed checks need to be postmarked by April 15th so they arrive in time.</u>

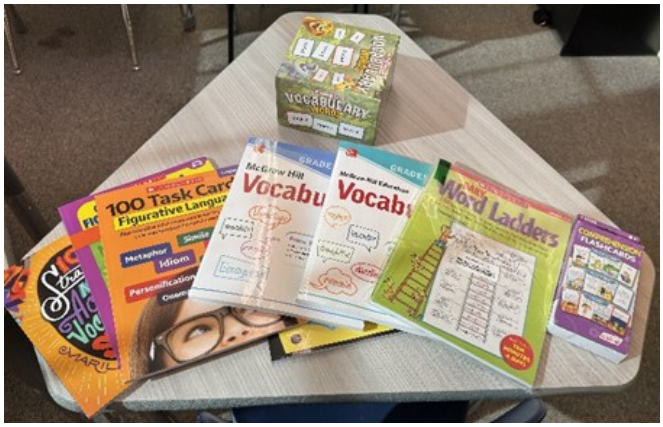
- Esther Panning — April 1
- Judy Valentine — April 17
- Katherine Wheeler — April 18
- Dorotha Fuhrman — May 7
- Ellen Clark — May 17
- Mary Guinther — June 12
- Reba Barney — June 25
- Dorene Henschen — July 21
- Martha Poland — July 26
- Sandra Trask-Tyler — August 1
- Rosemary Conroy — August 12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

## GRANT-IN-AID

Gamma tried a new method of gathering Grant-in-Aid applicants this year. Emeri Ferguson, Grant-in-Aid chairwoman, created and shared a Google Form application that lets teachers answer and submit their applications electronically. We had 22 people respond. Michele Koenig, Dorene Henshen, Judy Valentine, and Emeri Ferguson went over all of the applications and decided on 10 Grant-in-Aid recipients. Each were sent $100 checks to support their teaching. We look forward to hearing from them as to how our gift has helped them in the classroom. Recipients who present to our chapter will receive a second $100 award this summer for additional support for their teaching careers.

### *Recipients Reporting*

" Hello, My name is **Allyssa Miller** and I am a speech pathologist, new to Columbus City Schools. Thank you greatly for the grant to purchase materials for the students who I service. With the grant I have been able to purchase newly updated curriculum books, vocabulary books, and language activities/games for therapy to keep students engaged.
Thank you again,
Allyssa Miller, SLP Dominion Middle School. "



**Bethany Haskell** is a first year music teacher at Livingston Elementary with Columbus City Schools. She was able to purchase a classroom set of Boomwhackers, pictured above, to use with her students. Students using these manipulatives work on rhythm, timing, musical pitches, etc. Also pictured above is Bethany leading a class while using the Boomwhackers. Bethany states, " Your support has allowed us to bring these versatile instruments into our music classroom, enriching the educational experience for our students. Boomwhackers will continue to play a vital role in developing our students' musical skills and creativity. "

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

Acrylic painting of water lilies by Elizabeth Biglin. This painting is 24 x 30 and will be in a group show, Spring Ahead All-Member Show at the Griswold, April 1 – May 31.

"This past winter I spent Tuesday evenings volunteering with the Westerville Special Olympics basketball skills athletes practicing their dribbling, throwing and shooting. We started in the middle of November and finished the season competing at the State Special Olympics Games on March 8, 2025 at The Ohio State University in RPAC. I have assisted with the skills athletes in the past, but this year I was the head coach and recruited Tia Tyler to assist when she was available. This has been such a fun and rewarding activity, just what I needed to get me through the winter season! "

Sandie Trask-Tyler

## BOOK CORNER

Forest of Vanishing Stars…..Kristin Harmel…..Historical Fiction…..Dorene Henschen

Trouble Afoot the Three Hounds Bakery…..Julie Titterington…..Mystery…..Cathy Jones

What Happens Next…..Max Lucado…..Spiritual…..Willa Mullins

An Unfinished Love Story…..Doris Kearns Goodwin…..Biography Memoir…..Alida Pletcher

Dewey The Small-town Library Cat Who Touched the World…..Vicki Myron…..Biography…..Judy Valentine

We remember Mary Ellen Angeletti who has recently passed away. She was initiated into Gamma Chapter in 1992, and served in leadership capacities of Second Vice President, Nominations Chair, and the Scholarship Committee. She traveled extensively around the world, held positions in garden clubs, and was an active volunteer in maintaining gardens at Innis Woods Metro Park, Columbus, Ohio.

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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At our **October** meeting Mike Grigsby, founder of Fearless Falling, demonstrated strategic movements in managing a fall in order to lessen the possibility of injury to oneself. Mike holds ongoing in-person classes, and on-line lessons at his website, www.FearlessFalling.com.

Our program at the **November** meeting was Damsel in Defense presented by safety educator, Linda Luft Jones. She brought a wide selection of safety items for adults and children, and demonstrated how to use many of them – some she used on her mannequin, Bob. She allowed us to pass around stun guns to practice how to handle and use them. Items were available for purchase along with flyers giving information on other topics of safety and self defense.

In **January** our meeting was held via Zoom. Members were invited to share about their travel experiences, books read, or other things they wanted to share with the chapter. It was a good time to catch up with each other and start a new year.

The **February** meeting was also held via Zoom with the speaker, Roberto Baioni, MSW, Director of Volunteer Engagement for Lutheran Social Services speaking about CHOICES. CHOICES is an organization advocating 24/7 for victims of domestic violence. At the March meeting donations of items will be collected in support of CHOICES, and a monetary gift was sent to them.

| Full Name | Initiation Date | Years as member 2025 |
|---|---|---|
| Reba Ann Barney | 4/13/2002 | 23 |
| Elizabeth Biglin | 9/1/1990 | 35 |
| Carolyn T. Bordelon | 4/19/2008 | 17 |
| Mary Theresa Cardinal | 4/8/2000 | 25 |
| Virginia M. Cermelj | 4/8/2006 | 19 |
| Ellen I. Clark | 4/3/2004 | 21 |
| Rosemary S. Conroy | 4/9/2011 | 14 |
| Pat Farrenkopf | 12/30/2018 | 7 |
| Emeri Ferguson | 10/2/2021 | 4 |
| Dorotha M. Fuhrman | 4/12/2003 | 23 |
| Sharon S. Grimes | 6/1/2014 | 11 |
| Mary Guinther | 1/1/1961 | 64 |
| Janet L. Halter | 4/4/1998 | 27 |
| Dorene A. Henschen | 4/9/2011 | 14 |
| Catherine Ann Jones | 4/1/1986 | 39 |
| Joanne Katonak | 6/1/1974 | 51 |
| Beverly Michele Koenig | 4/1/1995 | 30 |
| Deborah Jean Lynch | 10/10/1989 | 36 |
| Willa Mae Mullins | 4/8/2000 | 25 |
| Esther M. Panning | 4/1/1991 | 34 |
| Alida L. Pletcher | 4/17/1999 | 26 |
| Martha Poland | 4/1/1994 | 31 |
| Marlynn D. Schwenk | 4/18/2009 | 16 |
| Mariruth D. Seubert | 6/1/1978 | 47 |
| Sarah Tossey | 4/1/2012 | 13 |
| Sandra Trask-Tyler | 4/6/2016 | 9 |
| Tia Tyler | 6/27/2024 | 1 |
| Judith A. Valentine | 4/1/1972 | 53 |
| Katherine Kramer Wheeler | 4/1/1972 | 53 |
| Mary Anne Wiedenheft | 4/1/1991 | 34 |
| Linda G. Wright | 4/1/1990 | 35 |

The photo on the front page pictures all who attended the **March** meeting. Many members were recognized for their milestone membership in DKG. Milestone years are increments of 5 years. Here, to the left, is the At-A-Glance of our membership and how long each has been a member of DKG, almost all of these years have been within our own Gamma chapter. We are very fortunate to have this longevity, and members who have remained faithful to the organization and our chapter!

## *Upcoming Meetings….*

OSO State Convention April 4

Founders' Day May 7

**Thursday, June 12, 2025**
10:00 am
Tour Franklin Park Conservatory
1777 E. Broad St
Columbus, OH 43203
Meal at Garden Café at the Conservatory

**September 2025**
Location TBA
**FESTA**
**(Feed, Educate, Serve, Train, Advocate)**

**Newsletter Editor—Janet Halter**
**All photos submitted for this newsletter have been used with their permission**

# MINUTES OF GAMMA CHAPTER MEETING

## MARCH 8, 2025

The Gamma Chapter meeting was called to order at 10:21 by President Michele Koenig at Judy Valentine's clubhouse. There were 14 members present and a guest.

Thought for the Day was "Sisterhood" led by Reba Barney and sung by the members.

Bethany Haskel, a Grant-in-Aid recipient, presented a power point showing how she used the $100 Grant-in-Air award to purchase "Boomwhackers" for her music classes.

The meeting resumed at 10:34 with recognition of members' anniversaries. Certificates for 25 years were given to Mary Cardinal and Willa Mullins, 30 years to Michele Koenig, and 35 years to Liz Biglin and Linda Wright. Special mention was made of Mary Guinther's 64 years of membership.

Minutes for the February meeting were accepted after a correction was made: Roberta Baioni is " Director of Volunteer Engagement" not Director of CHOICES.

Dorene Henschen, Treasurer, reported that 2 GIA checks have not cleared. Unencumbered checking total is $4396.08, Business savings $7341.12 and Scholarship $4118.55, Grant-in Aid $466.52. Report filed for audit.

Janet Halter, Communications chair, said the Spring newsletter is in the works. Members can still submit an article or book title.

Cathy Jones said there was no report from the Friendship committee.

World Fellowship and dues can be paid now or at the June meeting.

The collection of baby and mothers' items from members and the $100 donation will be sent to CHOICES.

April 4th and 5th are the OSO Convention dates. Founders' Day is Wednesday, May 7th. Cost is $48.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 am, followed by a potluck lunch.

Mary Cardinal, Co -Secretary