Alpha Alpha members gathered on December 14 at the Memorial Art Gallery for a concert on the museum's Italian baroque organ followed by a presentation by Susan Dodge-Peters Daiss, Senior Associate at the University of Rochester's School of Medicine Division of Medical Humanities and Bioethics as well as at the school's Memorial Art Gallery. Susan, who is an honorary member of Alpha Alpha, led participants to use their skills of observation to learn what they could from art before learning someone else’s interpretation of it.

Following the presentation at the gallery, members moved to the home of Rosemary Callard-Szulgit to enjoy one another’s company and delicious holiday food.

Best wishes for the coming year from your Alpha Alpha Officers

Pam Eberhardt, Betsy Balzano, Lori Branch, Mary Ann Geonie, and Annie Tran

More pictures from the party at Rosemary’s home on page 2.
From our President

Dear Alpha Alpha Members,

This holiday finds me getting ready to stay with our 10- and 15-year-old grandsons while their parents celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary in Jamaica. It is quite a change from other years preparing for the season with the help of two very active boys! I hope you are ready to enjoy the holidays with folks near and dear to you.

Preparations for meeting our 60th Anniversary Celebration goal of $6000.00 are well under way through all the effort on the part of the Campaign Committee chaired by Bridget Bishop and Linda Kotwas. With 66 active members in our chapter, that comes out to $91 per member or $7.58 per month per member, to put it in perspective. The New Year brings several events to help us reach our goal.

It was great to see all those who attended our Holiday Event at the MAG. The organ recital was a real treat, and Susan Dodge-Peters Daiss did a wonderful job of introducing us to the program of teaching medical personnel to look deeply and observe well as part of their decision making when treating patients. The University of Rochester is fortunate to have her expertise in preparing their students for the field of medicine.

Mary, many thanks to Rosemary Callard-Szulgit for hosting all of us in her beautiful home. What an inviting and warm way to start the holidays! May the New Year bring good health and memorable times to each one of you and your family.

Pam Eberhardt

Pam

Several Alpha Alpha members featured in Brockport’s Kaleidoscope

The College at Brockport’s magazine for its alumni, Kaleidoscope, featured several members of our chapter in its Fall 2014 issue. Betty Vary is part of a two-page spread on three alumnae of Brockport when it was a teachers’ college in the 1930s. Jeanette Banker and Mary Merle are pictured in a three-page photo album from the 2014 alumni weekend. And one of the mystery folks seen on page 28 looks a lot like Alpha Alpha’s Peg Browne.

Fun at Rosemary’s home after our time at the MAG

ABOVE: Gathered at the table of scrumptious treats are Bridget Bishop, Pam Eberhardt, and Annie Tran.

RIGHT: Shown in Rosemary Callard-Szulgit’s meditation room are Rosemary Szulgit and Jeanette Banker (standing) with Annie Tran and Elaine Leshnower (seated).

FAR RIGHT: Donna Noble (above) and Mary Lou Galasso (below).

Birthdays

Say “Happy Birthday” to these Alpha Alpha members:

December
8 Frances Moroney Whited 19 Aggie Seneway 29 Lori Burch

January
2 Jeanette Banker 3 Roselyn Freedman-Baum 6 Annie Tran 8 Laura Delehanty 16 Annie Tran 21 Anita Mance 22 Anne Abbey 26 Margie Lovett-Scott 27 Sarisa Zoghlin

February
5 Judith Cantleberry 7 Lisa Montanaro 17 Gretchen Hughes 23 Donna Noble 26 Nancy Padilla 27 Bridget Bishop
Coming in January

Get ready for “Extra Steps for Scholars”!

Information will be coming your way soon on how you can take extra steps to benefit from walking and raise scholarship funds for Alpha Alpha’s 60th Anniversary. It is simple, and does not require equipment or a gym. It can be done anywhere, anytime, and all fitness levels can participate. Extra Steps can even be taken around your home, the grocery store, the mall, even around the book racks at a library!

Along the way you will receive and be inspired by walking tips and information about walking’s health benefits from Mark Fenton’s acclaimed book: The Complete Guide to Walking, New and Revised: For Health, Weight Loss and Fitness.

Those participating will be entered into a gift drawing at the May meeting.

Join in! Watch for an email giving more details on how to sign up and begin the program January 1st, just in time for your New Year’s resolutions!

Information and forms will also be posted on our chapter website.

Contacts: Mary Lou Galasso: mgalass1@rochester.rr.com, phone 585-865-3133
Joan Fenton: rfenton@rochester.rr.com, phone 585-637-4929

Purchase homemade afghans to use as gifts

Our own Gretchen Hughes is busy creating lovely afghans to sell at the January 24 Legislative Brunch to help raise funds for our $6,000 for our 60th Campaign. Bring your checkbook

Coming March 25

Don’t forget to save books to donate

Mini-sale theme: bios/memoirs, but all books are appreciated.

Volunteers are needed to help during the sale.

Contact Anne O’Toole at aotoole0613@gmail.com

To learn more about campaign events, contact the co-chairs: Bridget Bishop (585 637-2422, meanmom5@rochester.rr.com), or Linda Kotwas (585-755-8778, lmkotwas@aol.com)
Teaching & Learning Institute:
Pathway to careers in education

The Teaching and Learning Institute (TLI) at Rochester’s East High School is a four-year magnet program for students interested in pursuing careers in education and leadership, an effort by the Rochester City School District to grow and recruit teachers from its own students. TLI gives its participants a rigorous curriculum and work experience in high school.

The TLI employs a democratic pedagogy where students are involved in decision making. From choosing topics for study and debate, to facilitating classroom activities and discussions, to planning events, students are encouraged to take an active role in the creation of their learning environment.

Each year, approximately 80 students are admitted to the program based on high standards for both academics and citizenship; to remain in the program, students must maintain a 2.5 GPA and exhibit good citizenship. All TLI students are enrolled in Regents level classes, and are encouraged to take at least one AP course. Students take the core subjects in self-contained clusters as much as possible. TLI seminars in education are similar in nature to college level study. Seminars include topics and issues discussed at the college level, and prepare students with the skills necessary for success in college. Students are required to complete in depth research, read a variety of texts, analyze various viewpoints and demonstrate their knowledge in authentic ways. TLI students are found on the honor roll and high honor roll and typically more than half of the TLI senior class is ranked in the top 10% of their class.

Students complete field observations in elementary schools each year, progressively getting more involved in the classrooms they visit. TLI students’ field experiences culminate in their senior year with an 80-hour paid internship as teacher assistants. Students who complete the program and earn their teaching certification are encouraged to apply for teaching jobs in the Rochester City School District.

In their senior year, TLI students complete an internship with an elementary teacher during the first semester, in many cases with the same teacher as in 11th grade. Students work four days per week, two hours per day for a total of ten weeks. This is a paid experience for students since they are interns and expected to adhere to the same practices as an employee. Within the classroom setting, TLI students work with individual students, small groups, as well as the entire class, preparing and executing lessons with the guidance of their cooperating elementary teacher.

Beyond their field experiences, students often return to the elementary schools to volunteer their time. Many chaperone field trips, assist at family fun nights, work at book drives, serve as classroom helpers, and tutor students one-on-one. By the time TLI students graduate, they have logged over 100 hours of volunteer work in their four years with the program.

Since its inception in 1995, the program has graduated over 250 students, of whom many have pursued teaching careers in Rochester and around the country. As of 2013, there were 15 TLI graduates working in the Rochester City School District. All of the Rochester-strand Alpha Alpha scholars, including chapter member Andrella Hurley, who teaches in Rochester, are TLI graduates.

The Teaching and Learning Institute has developed close relationships with local colleges and universities. The University of Rochester Warner School has provided mentors to 9th grade students while TLI classrooms provide field placements for U of R teaching candidates. SUNY Geneseo provides tutors for TLI students, offers an overnight visit for TLI juniors, and annually invites TLI students to be panelists for a discussion on urban education. St. John Fisher College and Nazareth College have partnered with TLI to create the Rochester Participatory Research Collaborative that allows TLI students to work with college students and professors to conduct scholarly research. Through this opportunity, TLI students have shared their research findings at various national educational conferences. The TLI Senior Seminar is part of the Monroe Community College dual credit program, allowing TLI seniors to gain college credit while still in high school.

TLI students receive assistance with college selection, SAT and ACT preparation, the writing of college essays and personal statements, as well as applying for scholarships and financial aid. By the time TLI students graduate, they have experienced campus tours, met with admissions and financial aid officers, developed relationships with college students, and participated in college seminars at local institutions including St. John Fisher College, Nazareth College, the College at Brockport, Roberts Wesleyan College, Monroe Community College, the University of Rochester, and SUNY Geneseo.

Several TLI students created a documentary, College Ready, two years ago that received attention regionally and nationally. TLI students presented the documentary at area colleges and at several national conferences including one at Teachers College, Columbia. College Ready is accessible at https://cloud.ensemblevideo.com/Watch/a7E5Yty3. A similar project is underway with assistance from St. John Fisher and Nazareth Colleges.

The 12 recipients to date of our chapter’s Rochester strand scholar awards have been TLI participants. TLI program directors are Alpha Alpha member Laura Delehanty (laura.delehanty@rcsdk12.org) and her husband Dan.
Alpha Alpha & Beta Eta Chapters
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Joint Legislative Brunch
Saturday, January 24, 2015
Elaine Wilson Formal Lounge, Haffey Hall
St. John Fisher College

9:30 a.m.  Registration/Social Time
10:00 a.m. Breakfast Brunch
10:45 a.m. Presentation–

Using technology to mobilize educators and the community to support teacher education programs and students

by Jamie Dangler.

Jamie Dangler is the Vice President for Academics at United University Professions (UUP), the union that represents academic and professional faculty at the State University of New York’s 29 state-operated campuses. Her home campus is SUNY Cortland, where she is an Associate Professor in the Sociology/Anthropology Department. Dangler chairs UUP’s Task Force on Teacher Education. In that role she helped to organize the 2014 campaign to delay implementation of the state’s new edTPA certification program to give faculty members and students time to react to the new regulations. She is also a member of the New York State United Teachers Board of Directors and works with colleagues from NYSUT locals at the City University of New York and community colleges on higher education issues.

11:45 a.m.  Business Meeting
12:30 p.m.  Adjournment

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return this registration with your check for $18.00 per meal payable to Alpha Alpha, by January 12 to Mary Anna Russo (Beta Eta President), 287 Daley Blvd., Rochester, NY 14617.
You may pay at the door if you pre-register by calling (585) 342-7716 or by emailing to marusso@rochester.rr.com

Name ___________________________  Chapter __________________
Phone ___________________  Email address (to email you a parking pass) ____________________________

Number attending _____ (Please list guests in space below):

Please list any food allergies/food needs: ____________________________

Alpha Alpha & Beta Eta welcome guests and members from other Central Western Pi State Chapters.
Getting to the Joint Legislative Brunch

Saturday, January 24, 2015
Elaine Wilson Formal Lounge, Haffey Hall
St. John Fisher College

Those who register will receive parking passes via email.
Register early to be sure you get your parking pass.
Be sure to clearly state your email address on the registration form.
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Alpha Alpha Chapter
Hilton High School, November 4, 2014

Attendance: B.Balzano, B. Bishop, S. Brady-Root, L. Burch, M. Cosgrove, P. Eberhardt, M. Emelr, J. Fuller, M. Geonie, G. Hughes, J. Kinz, L. Kotwas, E. Leshnower, D. Noble, B. Svitavsky, R. Swiskey, A. Tran, K. Velyk, Sr. E. Weaver, E. Wuetrich

Guest: Jill Harris, Emily & Lindsey Salvas & Hilton Jr. High students who did a great job explaining the iPad which is such an important part in student's education today.

Call to Order: 6:10

Approval of Minutes: As per Sue Genthner a correction to the 9/30 minutes was moved & passed. A motion was made and carried for our chapter to donate $25 gift certificate for our chapter’s contribution to the West Central Conference Benefit Drawing with proceeds to support the Pi State Education Foundation. The Pi State Raffle supports our state scholarship and awards funds and is separate from this request.

Welcome Guests: Jill Harris, Emily & Lindsay Salvas were welcomed by President P. Eberhardt.

Correspondence: M.Geonie: A thank from Betty Vary was read expressing her gratitude of Alpha Alpha & she donated to the Betty Vary Award and our 60th Anniversary Fund. A letter from Angelica Sanzotta was read stating she resigned her membership with regret.

Treasurer’s Report: A. Tran:
Checkbook Balance 9/30/14 $8,597.59
Operating Fund Balance 9/30/14 $7,798.25
Checkbook Balance 10/30/14 $13,416.52
Operating Fund Balance 10/30/14 $12,551.58
Brockport Endowment Funds 6/30/14 $150,700.26
Finger Lakes Area Community Endowment $23,190.60

Committee Reports:

Campaign Committee: B. Bishop: The Wine Tasting fundraiser for this November has been postponed and moved to either September 18 or 25, 2015 which are both Friday nights. The entertainment for the night will determine which date. A % of the cash bar will be given to us...so start thinking about possible raffles, silent auction, food etc., Another fundraiser idea called “Extra Steps “ for scholars was introduced by B.Bishop to start in January. The flyer and details will be sent out soon.

Membership: L. Kotwas: Be prepared for nominations of new members at the January 2015 meeting.

Communications: L. Burch explained that in order to print members’ pictures we must have a photo release permission form on file. These will be sent to the members to sign & will be kept on file.

New Business: A discussion was held that the funds for the Annual Holiday Gift be donated to the 60th Anniversary Fund. A motion was made and carried. A second motion was made & carried that the dinner money for this meeting be donated to the 60th Anniversary Fund also. There was a little OOPS! in the food delivery but all survived.

Announcements: The December 14th Holiday Organ Recital, Tour, & Social Meeting will be held at the Memorial Art Gallery. Afterwards R. Callard-Szulgit will be hosting a reception at her home. Details are in the Newswheel.

A. Tran asked if members would consider donating new or used warm winter clothing, blankets and any items that will keep the students and families of the Rochester International Academy WARM as they adjust to our winter. Items will be collected at Rosemary’s home after the Memorial Art Gallery tour or feel free to call Annie at (585) 406-3706.

Adjournment: 6:50

Mary Ann Geonie
Secretary

Remaining 2014-15
Alpha Alpha Meetings

Sunday, December 14
1:30 pm Holiday Organ Recital, Tour, & Social Event
(Alts & Music) – Memorial Art Gallery
& Home of Rosemary Callard-Szulgit

Saturday, January 24
9:30 am How social media have impacted politics
(Legislative Committees of Alpha Alpha & Beta Eta) -
Wilson Formal Commons, St. John Fisher College

Wednesday, March 25
5:30 pm Helen E. Quinn Award Dinner
Ridgmont Country Club

Wednesday, May 6
5:30 pm Founders’ Day, 60th Anniversary, Member Initiation
(History & Membership) - Lakeshore Country Club

Saturday, May 30
9:00 am Annual Alpha Alpha Awards Breakfast
(Awards & Scholarships) - New York Room,
Cooper Hall, College at Brockport

2014-2015 Newswheel deadlines

Publication of Newswheel is related to the chapter meeting schedule, to promote upcoming events and to report on those that have just occurred. The remaining Newswheel deadlines for this program year are:

January 31, March 29, May 9, June 14.
Alpha Alpha questions? Seek answers at http://WWW.dkgalphaalpha.org

Alpha Alpha website now accessible via Delta Kappa Gamma and Pi State websites

Our Alpha Alpha website has gained certification from The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, and displays the official certification seal on its home page.

Visitors may now access the Alpha Alpha website from both the Delta Kappa Gamma and the Pi State websites.

A link to our website is listed on the DKG site at https://www.dkg.org/websites with other chapter websites.

A link to our site is also listed on the Pi State site at http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NY/Chapter%20Websites.htm

Dear Alpha Alpha Friends,

I am your "Remembrance Person" and I welcome your calls and e-mails concerning our members who may need a get well message, or appreciate a congratulations or a thinking-of-you note.

You can reach me at pquamo@rochester.rr.com or 585-352-1336.

Thank you for caring,
Pam Quamo