

"Each of us can be compared to a spoke in a wheel.
Without each spoke functioning well, our wheel won't turn."



Alpha Alpha New York State,
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Newswheel



June 2019



June 1 Awards Breakfast



Dr. Pamela Beach presenting Mary Bastian Lecture.

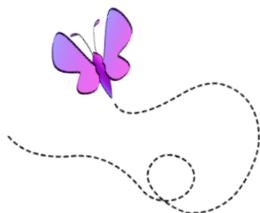
Each year during the annual Alpha Alpha Awards Breakfast, the student recipients of chapter scholar awards are recognized, then invited to share some of their recent learning experiences with those in attendance. On June 1, six of our eight scholars were able to join us. In addition, an adult educational leader presents an inspirational keynote address, the Mary Bastian Lecture. This year the Lecturer was Dr. Pamela Beach, Associate Professor, The College at Brockport, who shared tips with our scholar award recipients – ***always try new ways to reach students, know your own strengths and use them in teaching, and gather a support network.***

Chapter Treasurer Dr. Betsy Balzano read a letter from Floyd Hughes, Gretchen's husband, noting Gretchen's devotion to Alpha Alpha and to the Rochester Strand of our scholar awards program. Included with the letter was a check for \$5,000.00 to support the new Gretchen Hughes Scholar Award.

Also the silent auction held during the Awards Breakfast this year raised \$580.00 for the Rochester Strand awards. Thanks to all who provided items and to all who purchased them!



Scholars attending the June 1 breakfast: Glerizbeth Sanchez, Brittany Ellsworth, Kelly Carrillo, Helen Knapp, Erin Nichols, and Joycelyn Rivas.



More pictures on pages 4 - 5



Hello,

As I sit down to write to you I am enjoying the beautiful green leaves on the trees which have finally filled out, my irises are blooming, the peonies will be out soon, and, of course, the grass needs mowing.

It's almost a week since many of us were together to celebrate our scholars and take pleasure in knowing that we are helping to ease their journey toward becoming teachers. Many thanks to the entire scholarship committee, especially Monica Cosgrove and Lynne Keefer. The awards breakfast was, as always, a success. Many of our scholars gave us a window into their lives at this point in their journey as they stood before us, humble and grateful. It was a pleasure to listen to each and every one of them. Our Alpha Alpha honorary member and the President of the College, Heidi Macpherson, gave a welcome, and the Bastian lecture was given by Associate Professor Dr. Pamela Beach. She spoke of her very own journey, the many decisions that needed to be made and the people in her life that helped guide her to her current position at the College at Brockport.

The following members also need to be acknowledged: Eileen Wuethrich for organizing the silent auction, the many members who donated an item to be auctioned, Joan Fenton for her work in securing our speaker, and Sue Genthner for her creative memorial cards for our place settings.

Our 2019-2020 committee chairs have met and our meeting schedule for the coming chapter year is close to being set. The new year will begin in August with our annual picnic at Pam Eberhart's home. It's a good opportunity to relax and get to know one another better. More information will also be in the next *Newswheel* about the West Central meeting on September 28. Be looking for information and plan to attend. It is always an enjoyable day.

I would like to close with a quote from our Clara D. Bishop award winner--Beth Sanchez: "One of my goals as a teacher will be to build profound relationships with students." I believe Beth may just be doing that soon!

I wish you all a safe and happy summer! *Bridget*

**ALPHA ALPHA CHAPTER
2019-2020 CHAPTER MEETINGS**

Officers and committee chairs met on May 29 to set the calendar for the coming program year. The theme for the coming year will be 'opportunities to connect' and the goal will be 'to increase memberships.' The educational excellence meeting will be about social / emotional wellness and mindfulness

August 13	Summer Picnic	Pam Eberhart's home
September 22	New Member Induction	Irondequoit Library
September 28	West Central Conference	Leroy Country Club
October 15 or 22	Educational Excellence Program	(TBA)
November 19 or 20	World Fellowship Program	(TBA)
December 8	Holiday Social	Judy Wadsworth's home
January 25	Joint Legislative Brunch	St John Fisher College
March 25	Helen Quinn Award Dinner	Ridgemont Country Club
May 7	Founders' Day: Alpha Alpha 65 th Birthday Orientation, Installation of Officers	Lakeshore Country Club
June 6	Awards Breakfast	Cooper Hall- College at Brockport



Scholars Meet

On May 7, the chapter Scholarship and Awards Committee hosted an informal session with this year’s scholar award recipients. Sixteen people attended, although not all scholars were there at the same time due to their schedules.



Erin St. James (partially visible), Mary Ann Geonie, and Scholar Beth Sanchez



Scholars Erin Nichols, Helen Knapp, and Angela Austin.

What is a Reserve Membership?

Recently, there has been some confusion about what “reserve membership” means for our Chapter members, and when or how this change in membership status takes place. The Membership co-chairs and several officers consulted DKG membership guidelines; and, after some discussion, wish to share this information.

An active member can request **reserve membership** if she is unable to participate in Chapter activities. This could be due to **illness, physical disability, and/or geographic location**. **Retirement or “being too busy” are not viable reasons** to be granted a reserve membership. This level of membership is for members who wish to stay connected with Chapter activities, but are physically unable to do so. Reserve membership dues are currently \$28.50 annually.

A request for reserve membership is to be **made in writing or by email to the Chapter president before April 30** of the year in which the member wishes to change her membership status. At the time of the request, the member must be an active member in good standing; that is, their previous dues payments must be up-to-date.

Reserve membership is **granted by a vote of Chapter members** at a Chapter meeting. Reserve members have all the privileges of active membership except that of holding office. Should her situation change, a reserve member can request active membership again, with written notice and payment of full active dues.

Birthdays

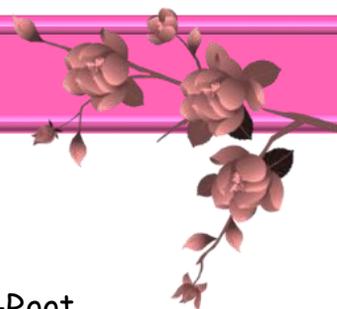
June

- 8 SusanDodge-PetersDaiss
- 9 Mary Duryea Merle
- 13 Anne O’Toole
- 24 Elaine Leshnower
- 29 Linda Kotwas



July

- 14 Sheila Brady-Root



June 1 Awards Breakfast



Awards Committee Co-Chairs Monica Cosgrove and Lynne Keefer.



Linda Kotwas and Lisa Montanaro welcoming attendees.

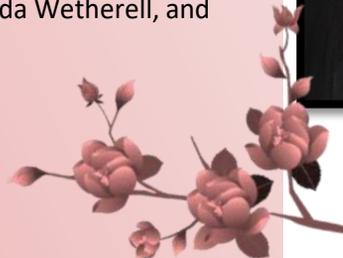


TOP ROW: Joan Fenton, Bastian Lecturer Dr. Pamela Beach, Dr. Margie Lovett-Scott, and Dr. Barbara Mitrano.

MIDDLE ROW: Dr. Heidi Macpherson, Dr. Ena Farley, Mary Ann Geonie, and Diane Maurer.

BOTTOM ROW: Bridget Bishop, Lynne Keefer, Linda Wetherell, and Sue Genthner.

Dr. Heidi Macpherson and Dr. Lesli Myers-Small.



June 1 Awards Breakfast

Potential buyers participating in the silent auction of donated items to raise funds for our Rochester strand of scholar awards.



Image created by Sue Genthner in memory of our three chapter members who recently died. Prints of this design were placed at table settings.



Diane Maurer, Donna Noble, and Sue Genthner.



Judy Fuller (seated) and Pam Eberhardt.



Scholar Kelly Carillo and Linda Wetherell.

Rochester International Academy Washington DC Trip

Written by Mariana Ndoole and Mahmood Muthana



Whoever said “Everything happens for a reason” was right. This is the perfect quote for our senior trip. Before our class went to Washington DC, we felt kind of divided. We didn’t spend enough time communicating with one another. It felt like we were 22 individuals instead of a senior class. However, this experience allowed us to bond and come together in the best way possible.

On our way to Washington DC the bus broke down. At first we thought it was the worst thing that could ever happen to us, but instead, it was the opposite. We all bonded through conversations, hand clapping games, sight-seeing from the windows, and finding things to do while the teachers worked quickly to solve the bus issue. We finally arrived in the nation’s capital and we were in awe. We first saw the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, the Vietnam Memorial, the Korean War Memorial, and the beautiful pool. The morning started off with an extra-long bus ride, but then our evening turned into a wonderful learning experience.

Days we spent in Washington DC were phenomenal. We couldn’t ask for a better time to spend and to get to know each other. We spent most of our days exploring Washington DC, visiting historical places and learning about American culture. Our fun went on and on, visiting as many important places as we could. We went to the Library of Congress, toured the Capitol Building, visited the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, and more. One of our favorite places was the Botanical Gardens. It was really beautiful and such a relaxing place to see. It was also special because many of us got to see plants from our home countries. We also really enjoyed visiting the Smithsonian National Zoo and we liked seeing animals from all around the world. The most interesting place we visited was the Holocaust Memorial Museum. It was so sad to see the images in real life, but it was so meaningful to visit the museum. We were also fortunate enough to go to our first American baseball game at Nationals Park. This was really fun because we didn’t know anything about baseball. We didn’t even know when the game started! We were there just watching without a clue, but our teachers tried their best to explain it to us. It was a great time. On our last day in Washington DC, we walked around the Tidal Basin and were able to reflect and visit the surrounding memorials. It felt serene because we were taking in the special history of Martin Luther King Jr., Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Thomas Jefferson, while also making our own memories with our friends and trying to enjoy our last hours together.

This senior trip was the best thing that happened to us. Our class connected and we did a lot of things together. We are growing up and we grew together. We made unforgettable memories and long-lasting friendships. This would not have been possible without the love and support from our teachers and our principal. We know that this trip was supported by a lot of people in the community and we are so grateful. We appreciate the donations from the members of the Delta Kappa Gamma Alpha Alpha Chapter. Please accept our greatest thank you and know that you have helped to change our lives forever. **Thank you.**

Sincerely,

Rochester International Academy
Class of 2019 Seniors

The Alpha Alpha Chapter donated \$200 from its Mary K Vollmer Fund (for special projects) and members donated \$475 more for a total of \$675!!!

Thank you SO much! Annie Tran Flesch



Alpha Alpha Picnic

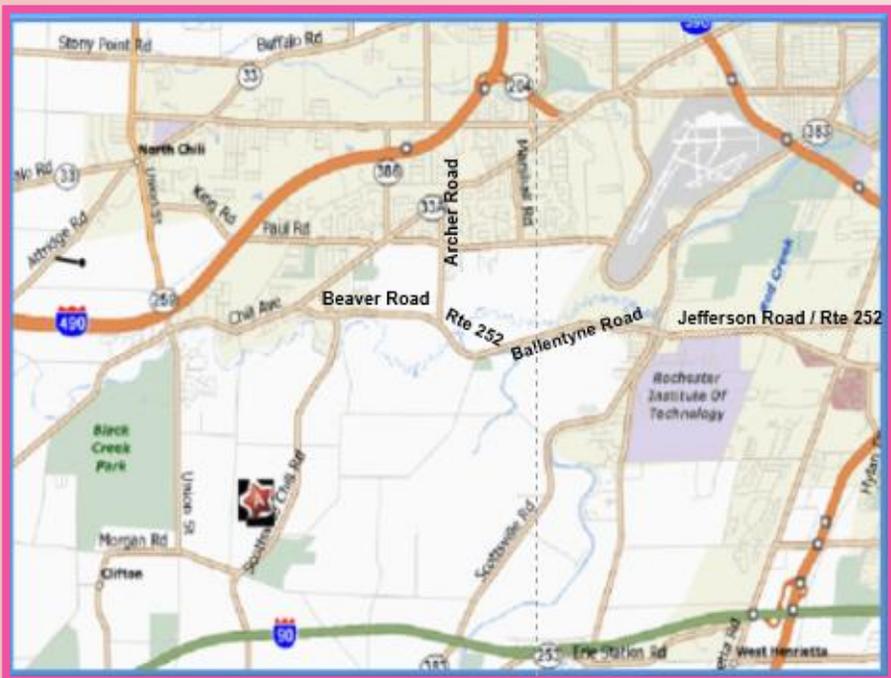
Tuesday, August 13 – Noon

Rain or Shine

**Pam Eberhardt's home
591 Scottsville Chili Road (Rte 386)
Scottsville**

**By August 6 contact Pam
at 889-2754 or pamlynn@frontiernet.net.**

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS
Ask Pam what is needed when you RSVP.
Please also bring \$5.00
to cover the cost of picnic supplies.



Newswheel

Alpha Alpha Chapter, Pi State,
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

June 2019

Janet Winter, Editor
winterjanets@gmail.com

2018-2020 Alpha Alpha Officers :

President	Bridget Bishop	637-2422
Vice President	Mary Ann Geonie	637-0045
Secretary	Diane Maurer	301-1621
Treasurer	Dr. Betsy Balzano	594-0314
Ass't. Treasurer	Sherry Johnson	594-2520
Parliamentarian	Dr. Roz Freedman-Baum	865-2822
Past President	Judy Wadsworth	442-4737

INSIDE

- 1 – Awards Breakfast
- 2 – From our President, Upcoming Meetings
- 3 – Scholar's Meet
Reserve Membership
Birthdays
- 4 – Awards Breakfast
- 5 – Awards Breakfast
- 6 – Rochester International Academy
Washington DC Trip
- 7 - Picnic at Pam's



Check out DKG/MyDKG/Communities

A number of years ago, members suggested that DKG find a way to link members who shared **professional job titles** (primary grade educators, college professors, media specialists, counselors, administrators, etc.) or **positions in DKG** (editors, membership chairs, educational excellence chairs, etc.).

Alternatively, members suggested that linking members with **common interests**—gardening, book clubs, travel, art, etc.—would also be great! The thought was that having a network of colleagues in similar positions or with similar interests would be a powerful source of support and growth. From this thought evolved the **Communities** available on the MyDKG segment of the DKG website—currently home to 14 topic/job areas.