



**The Gamma Gamma Ray
Newsletter of Gamma Gamma Chapter,
Illinois, Lambda State Organization,
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**

November/December 2014

Dates to Remember:

Thursday, November 13th	"Vino Van Gogh" Social Event
Thursday, December 4th	Shop 'Til You Drop' Annual Auction
Saturday, January 10th, 2015	Feed My Starving Children
Friday-Sunday, April 24-26th, 2015	Lambda State Convention

Websites to Remember:

Gamma Gamma: www.gammagamma75.org
Lambda State: www.deltakappagamma.org/IL
International: www.dkg.org

Hello! Our October meeting was jam packed as we wowed the Lambda State Ambassador of Good Will, Dr. Margaret Trybus. Gerie Kay and the Membership Committee started us off with an icebreaker that was enjoyed by all; in small groups, we shared the latest book we read. Detailed committee reports followed; a summary of the information presented is in the **October meeting minutes** found on the website. Ana Jakupovic, Admission Officer and Outreach Coordinator of the Science Academy of Chicago, and four students then presented an overview of their curriculum and activities that focus on in depth study of Science and Technology. There were 28 members and two guests in attendance. So many thanks to give once again. Thank you Gerie Kay and Membership Committee for the awesome icebreaker, refrigerator reminders, and outreach to new teachers in District 54. Thank you, Mary Wrobel, Merna Folkers, Linda Szymkowiak, and Program Committee members for the arrangements and program, thank you Barbara Peterson and Communications/Publicity Committee, for the yummy treats; and, thank you, Barb, for the Reflection and Chapter Profile. Thank you Adrienne Rovin, Sally Scholler, and Society Business Committee for preparing and presenting the balanced budget and thank you, Linda Stolt, for handling the dues, managing the treasury, and providing a legislative update. Thank you, Sandy Cook and Service Projects Committee members, for collecting the PADS donations and thank you, members, for your generous donations. Thank you, Kris Beaudette and Special Projects Committee members, for the book swap. In her comments, Margaret Trybus told us we are a stellar chapter in Lambda State. She said we are more than a shining star; we are a firecracker! I couldn't agree more.

Vino Van Gogh

Hope that you have planned to attend this social event. A reminder and sign-up form were sent to you on October 29th. Can't wait to see those masterpieces!

BRING A FRIEND AND SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP'

The holidays are upon us! Members and friends are invited to attend the annual auction on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4TH. Our energetic auction team will return to facilitate this KEY fundraising event. Start your holiday shopping early in the company of good friends! Our theme this year is-Bring a Friend!

Location: Prince of Peace, 930 W. Higgins Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60194 847.885.7010

Time: **2:00-3:30** Set-Up, **3:30** Social, **4:00** Auction/Dinner

Reflection: Kris Beaudette

Arrangements: Linda Szymkowiak

Hostesses and Greeters: **Program Committee:** Mary Wrobel, **Chair**, Amy Bouchard, Mary Balk, Merna Folkers, Marge Fox, Carol McHale, Gail Mehlan, Dayna Prochaska, Linda Szymkowiak, Cindy Ward, Karen Weinzierl; and, **Special Projects:** **Kris Beaudette, Chair**, Cammy Basak, JoAnn Bechtold, Kris Davenport, Debbie Faems, Peggy Gire, Keri Gold, Patricia Homp, Mindy Jones, Mary Kay Marelllo, Lorena Williams

Following is information from Mary Wrobel, Program Chair

December 4th will be here before we know it and time once again for our biggest fund-raiser and most enjoyable social gathering: **Our Annual Holiday Auction!** We are hoping that all our members can attend and will bring at least one friend to this fun event! As usual, we will have our silent auction for gift baskets, our 50/50 chance, and our live auctioned items. This year we are again doing Elf on the Shelf, and are looking for all you crafters to make multiple holiday items or gifties for our Elf bids. We are also asking for small, "Elf" bags of cookies, candies, spiced nuts or little breads, cakes for our Elf on the Shelf offerings. We think baked goodies will be a big hit! We are offering something new and different for our Holiday Auction this year-a "garage sale/white elephant" table! The items on this table will be an assortment of inexpensive, or used, as well as anything (according to you) not quite worthy of being auctioned. These items will be given a suggested price by the giver and placed on the garage sale table for a buy and take option, first come first served. A basket for cash or check will be available for our garage sale. No auctioning, no bidding, just buy and take. So don't forget to bring any garage sale items for our auction, as well as the usual auction items. Since many of us are bringing friends, remember to bring plenty of items to auction or bid on, and remind your invited friends to bring money for buying, as well. We are looking forward to a great Holiday Auction. **Let's make it our best!**

Also, if you are unable to attend the auction but would like to make a donation, checks can be sent to Linda Stolt, 1912 Quaker Hollow Lane, Streamwood, IL 60107-1977.

Attached to the email you received is the Holiday Auction form for you to complete and send back to Mary. A light dinner will be served at 5:30 P.M.-\$5.00 per person. This is a great time to introduce friends and prospective members to our organization ☺.

November Book Review

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

Reviewed by JoAnn Bechtold

Between 1854 and 1929, so-called orphan trains ran regularly from the cities of the East coast to the farmlands of the Midwest, carrying thousands of abandoned children whose fates would be determined by pure luck. As a young Irish immigrant, Vivian Daly was one such child, sent by rail from New York City to an uncertain future a world away.



Christina Baker Kline weaves a beautiful story of two women, Vivian who is 91 and Molly who is 17. She has also spent her youth in and out of foster homes raised by strangers. I just loved this book! I loved journeying with them through their heartbreak! It is a powerful story of personal upheaval and resilience, second chances, and unexpected friendship!



Lambda State

Just want to continue to remind you that there is a wealth of information on the Lambda State website for planned events, committee ideas and state projects as well as information about available scholarships and grants for continuing education. Coming up:

Lambda State Convention, April 24th-26th, Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, Lombard, IL.

Consider being a presenter. Applications can be found on the Lambda State website and are due January 15, 2015. The two books chosen for the book discussions at the convention are *The Fault in Our Stars*, by John Green and *The Rector's Wife*, by Joanna Trollope. Also, this is the year for the Literary Arts Recognition Program. Creative writing from students in Grades K-12/GED will be displayed at convention. The due date for participation is March 1, 2015. Information and forms can be found on the website under Committees/Literacy.

The Lambda State International Projects Committee has planned a state-to-state visit to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island for members on June 20th-June 28th, 2015. Contact Donna Bowen, Chair, for details about the cost and itinerary.

Taming Technology for Learning and Leisure-June 22-24, 2015, Bradley University, Peoria, IL. Registration opens March 1, 2015 and Registration deadline is June 8th, 2015.

Happy Birthday to You!

Please join me in wishing a Happy Birthday to our Sisters born in November and December!

11/02	Jan Kayson	12/11	Barb Keegan
11/14	Gail Poisson	12/15	Patricia Homp
11/21	Nanette Doubler	12/16	Adrienne Rovin
11/25	Keri Gold	12/22	Nancy Gaughan
11/27	Mary Balk	12/29	Jane Kennedy
		12/31	Jane Jedlicka



Our Condolences



I would again like to extend our sympathy to Nancy Harmon on the recent death of her father.

Welcome!

Welcome to Bonnie Tuggle who officially transferred from Gamma Chapter to Gamma Gamma on October 24th. We had the pleasure of meeting Bonnie at the October meeting as the guest of Barbara Peterson. Please add the following information in your chapter directory:

Bonnie Tuggle
125 Plymouth Court
Bartlett, IL 60103
630.483.1434

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Barbara Peterson on “officially” being named the Executive Assistant of Lambda State. We know from experience that she will do a wonderful job!

Maureen's Musings



As we enter this holiday season of Thanksgiving, I would like to share a quote from Thornton Wilder-“We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures.” Please take time to reflect on the unique treasures in your life; I hope that the bonds you have formed with Delta Kappa Gamma sisters are among them. **HAPPY THANKSGIVING** to you and your family!