



The Gamma Gamma Ray

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

March 2016

Dates to Remember:

Thursday, March 10th

Tuesday, April 5th

Friday-Sunday, April 15th-17th

Thursday, May 5th

Tuesday-Saturday, July 5th-9th

Cuban Discovery with Glenda Klein-Mali
Candidates for Membership 'Get-Acquainted Tea'
Illinois Lambda State Convention
Annual Spring Celebration of Membership
2016 International Convention- Nashville, TN

Websites to Remember:

Gamma Gamma: www.gammagamma75.org

Lambda State: www.deltakappagamma.org/IL

International: www.dkg.org

Sign in-Member ID/PW-dkg2014society

JOIN US FOR CUBAN DISCOVERY with GLENDA KLEIN-MALI

Journey with Glenda and her University of Chicago Alumni Group to the near (90 miles from Key West) but far “frozen in time” island of **Cuba**. Learn about its troubled history from Spanish colonial times to independence as a “protectorate” of the United States and then to the 1959 Revolution when it evolved as the only Communist country in the Western Hemisphere. Gain insight into **Cuba’s rich cultural roots** of Spanish/African/Caribbean music and dance-the mambo, conga, and salsa-artist studios, the film industry, and Ernest Hemingway’s mansion, where **The Old Man and the Sea** was written. Visit “Young Pioneer” schools (with a 99% literacy rate), subsidized medical clinics, and a lush cooperative organic farming community. Meet the friendly people who exude a colorful, passionate, sensual character and a strong survival instinct ‘midst economic stagnation. Ride in a 1950 pink and cream Studebaker convertible along the Malecon (a Caribbean coastal boulevard) and through **Old Havana** colonial neighborhoods with beautiful crumbling buildings. View political billboards that still promote socialism, Fidel, Raul, and **La Fuerza del Pueblo** (the power of the people). Smoke a real **Cuban** cigar, play dominoes, and sip a mojito, on legendary beaches peopled mostly by Canadians and Europeans. **Salud!** (Cheers) to new and hopeful relations with the United States and your first visit to a still mysterious nation.

Location:

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

930 West Higgins Road

Schaumburg, IL 60194 Church Office: 847.885.7010

3:30 PM

Set-Up/Social

4:00 PM

Meeting/Voting

5:00 PM

Program

6:00 PM

Pizza-Optional

Reflection:	Debbie Faems
Arrangements:	Linda Szymkowiak (847.302.2380)
Contact:	Glenda Klein-Mali (847.519.3933)
Hostesses and Greeters:	Special Projects: * Kris Beaudette, Chair , Cammy Basak, JoAnn Bechtold, Kris Davenport, Debbie Faems, Peggy Gire, Keri Gold, Patricia Homp, Mindy Jones, Mary Kay Marello, Lorena Williams
Service Project:	Gently used clothing for District 54 Community Closet Diapers for Schaumburg Township Pantry
Miscellaneous:	Elections: At this meeting we will be voting for Gamma Gamma Chapter Officers and new members. Book Exchange: Remember to bring books to share with fellow members.

GAMMA GAMMA NEWS

There is a whole lot going on, ladies! We certainly had a lot of fun and tapped our creativity with Mary Morawski and zen doodling art at the February meeting. Thank you to Amy Bouchard for arranging this experience and to Mary Balk and Jane Martin and their husbands for securing the venue as well as setting up and taking down the tables and chairs. Thirty-one members and two guests also feasted on delicious treats provided by Cheryl Keifer and the members of the Communications Committee. The generosity of our group makes me smile from ear to ear. The donations to the Campanelli Breakfast Club run by our own Madelyn Brossard were HUGE and will feed many hungry students. At this meeting, I had the honor of presenting the proposed Slate of Officers for the 2016-2018 biennium. They are: **President-Gerie Kay, First Vice-President-Mary Wrobel, Second Vice-President- Rose Karner, Recording Secretary-Kris Beaudette, Corresponding Secretary-Mary Roeing, Treasurer-Linda Stolt, and Parliamentarian-Keri Gold.** Gerie Kay presented three nominations for membership that have been received. They are: **Sherry Magnuson, Rose Marie Mincey, and Jacqueline (Jacqui) Rothman.** Their bios are attached to this newsletter. Please review these and come to the March meeting prepared to cast your votes. At this meeting, we will be talking with you about updating the biographical information we have for you and also be asking you to let us know your preferences for the committee you wish to serve on for the 2016-2018 biennium. Please consider being willing to switch to a new committee as some of the committees really need additional help and some seem to have more than ample support. Thank you, in advance, for being flexible and willing to share the work that goes into making our chapter **AWESOME**.

Packing for **FMSC** was a wonderful event, a time of fellowship for members and their families while giving service to a worthy cause. We filled **60** slots, 100% of those allotted, and exceeded packing hopes for the number of boxes completed. Kathleen Stephansen brought her entire book club and Tracy Cory brought the healthy members of her family. ☺ While they topped the number charts, there were many of us who came with a spouse, family member, or friend with whom to share this experience. It is always fun to try to guess who it is under those fashionable hairnets. Those who went to Jason's Deli afterwards had the added pleasure of a delicious lunch together. Thank you, again, Kris Beaudette, for the arrangements.

Art Mart 2016 Thanks to Gerie Kay, we have our submission for this year's Art Mart at the Lambda State Convention in Decatur. The proceeds from the Art Mart benefit the M. Josephine O'Neil Arts Recruitment Grant which is awarded to worthy candidates every two years, up to \$6000. The overall theme for this year's Art Mart is The Year of the Tree: Branching Out in the Arts. Gerie Kay is kindly donating a framed pastel from a local artist, Carol Keene. Carol was part of the Artist in Residence program at Churchill School in 1993. The artist, in collaboration with Gerie's students, created a picture using pastels. It fits perfectly with the Nature Theme requested. Gerie has been communicating with the artist who is also donating two additional pieces. You can check out the artist at Carol Keene.com.

We have something exceptional happening. At the last meeting, I announced that Karyn Baldwin, our high school recruitment grant winner who will be entering her senior year, was chosen as the Florence A. Cook Recruitment Grant recipient for Area I this year. She will be receiving \$2000. Sandy Cook recently notified me that she has **ALSO** been awarded a Lambda State Grant-in-Aid for \$1500, **\$3500** in all! Thank you, Sandy Cook, for guiding our girls in the application process and to our mentors for providing support throughout. Both awards will be presented at the State Convention April 17th. Hope you can be there to support/applaud Karyn and her family.

SAVE THE DATE! On May 14th, Kenneth Young Center will host a 5K run/walk at Busse Woods. Sudha Byanna would like to put a chapter team together with each member contributing \$25.

LITERACY

Jane Jedlicka recommends The Hours. The Hours is a 1998 novel written by Michael Cunningham. It won the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, and the 1999 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction. It was later made into an Oscar-winning 2002 movie. I have recently revisited this book, as it is one of the few books I packed and brought along with me to the City last Spring. I was moved by the plight of these three women when first read. On the second reading, I continue to be struck by their choices made and their life's paths directions.

This is a novel about three women: Virginia Woolf in 1923, Laura Brown in 1949, and Clarissa Vaughan in 1999. Virginia Woolf, while writing the novel Mrs. Dalloway, is struggling with her own mental illness. Laura Brown is struggling with her unhappiness in her role as housewife and mother, unable to truly love her husband and son, and her domesticated existence. Clarissa Vaughan's character, while planning a party for her former lover who is now dying of AIDS, questions her definition of true happiness. Also, the ability for these women to openly express their sexuality throughout time is examined.

This book deals with women's issues and the stereotypes placed upon us in earlier generations. We have come a long way.

In anticipation of the Oscars, the Special Projects Committee recommends the following books which have been made into this years' Oscar nominated films:

Room by Emma Donoghue
The Martian by Andy Weir
The Revenant by Michael Punke
Carol (The Price of Salt) by Patricia Highsmith
The Big Short by Michael Lewis

Brooklyn by Colm To'ibi'n

The Lambda State 2016 Convention Book Talks are: It's Complicated: The Social Lives of Networked Teens by danah boyd (lower case requested by author) and The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins.

Nominations for our chapter's annual Literacy Award are needed. A good candidate for this award will be someone who has made a noteworthy contribution to literacy for any group of persons. The award is presented at the annual Spring Celebration. Please send your nominations with a description of their work to Kris Beaudette, at KrisBeau@comcast.net.

LAMBDA STATE

The Lambda State Convention, April 15th-17th, 2016 being held at the Decatur Conference Center and Hotel, Decatur, IL is just around the corner. Registration for EVERYTHING and Housing Information are included in the Winter 2015 Lambda State Newscaster as well as on the Lambda State Website. In order to "Make the BLOCK" party (select all three convention special meals and reserve a room for two nights, a hotel reservation must be completed and a convention registration form that includes the three special meals must be submitted no later than April 1, 2016. Even if you are not planning to come to all of the convention, there is a **LATE** charge for meals if the registration form is postmarked after **4/1/2016**. **Kris Beaudette and Mary Wrobel** will be part of the Chorus this year; the music is always beautiful. **Carol Fancher and Mary Guthrie** will be remembered at the White Rose Ceremony as well. Attending is very rewarding and gives one a deeper understanding and appreciation of this wonderful organization and we also have a grand time with one another! We need **17.5** ☺ members in attendance (does not have to be entire convention) to meet Honor Chapter Criteria. I hope that you have made attendance part of your plans.

Remember that the 2016 International Convention is going to be in Nashville, TN, July 5-9. This is a real opportunity very close to home to experience the organization at the international level and connect with educators from around the world. One of the most rewarding and incredible experiences I have ever had was collaborating and working with therapists from seven other countries when I lived in the Philippines. The registration form is printed in the January-February issue of the DKG NEWS and is also available online on the Events page of the DKG international website. Please remember you need to log on using the member ID as the user name and the default password, dkg2014society.

Please join me in wishing a Happy Birthday to our Sisters born in APRIL AND MAY!



APRIL

- 01 Dorothy Clair
- 07 Sue Werner
- 10 Mary Hurd
- 14 Mary Stitt
- 21 Nancy Harmon

MAY

- 10 Julie Ehrhardt
- 15 Mary Wrobel
- 27 Honora Quinn
- 31 Cindy Ward

Maureen's Musings

I am subbing today in an Advanced and Enriched classroom, beginning with third grade students who are engrossed in their reading and independently working on a book project. It is beautiful. Yesterday, it was the opposite end of the spectrum with students so needy on all levels it is painful. I am told I am one of the few people willing to return to this classroom as a sub. I have actually known some of these students over the past three years and can say that progress has been made. What was beautiful here is the obvious love, respect, and caring of their teachers interacting with them. What strikes me is the countless number of vastly diverse lives who have come into our presence and how amazingly important educators are in fostering positive growth and development, regardless of the starting point. Kudos to all of you marvelous, loving educators who have made such impact!