



# Gamma Gamma Ray

 **DKG**<sup>TM</sup>  
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY  
FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

## Newsletter of the Gamma Gamma Chapter of IL State

[www.gammagamma75.org](http://www.gammagamma75.org)  
June 2019

### School is out and summer is finally here!

On June 8<sup>th</sup> we had a wonderful gathering and collegiate induction ceremony with our two new, collegiate members: **Jennifer Navarrete and Rachel Maniscalco** at Peggy Gire's beautiful home. Many of the executive board were in attendance, as well as mentors to our college students. Our previous collegiate member **Brit Moran**, who recently graduated from college, and **Steffi Delgado**, one of our scholarship winners who sang at our May Banquet, were also able to attend. We all had a great time getting to know Jennifer and Rachel during our dinner. Thanks to all who brought sandwiches and salads-everything was delicious! And thanks to **Sandy Cook** for bringing cakes for dessert.

**Denise Pawelczyk** did an excellent job coordinating this special occasion! Although Jon Fussell could not attend due to a recent fall and concussion, we all were able to preview the beautiful photo album Denise made for Jon. This was a book of photos of **Anne Fussell** in DKG, as well as some of the Anne Fussell Scholarship winners. Denise will send the book to Jon.

Thanks to all our active members who emailed me your support and approval of our new collegiate members. We are very excited to welcome these two wonderful young women into our Gamma Gamma Chapter!

### Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- June 25<sup>th</sup>- Our **Gamma Gamma book club** is meeting at Bridges of Poplar Creek at 5:30 pm to discuss upcoming book club choices and facilitators. This is an organizational meeting, so come with book ideas and possible selections for the upcoming months. Please let Jo Ann Bechtold know if you can attend this dinner gathering.
- July 15- Membership Committee is meeting to update our chapter photo album. Meeting at Sue Werner's house at 11am for meeting and lunch. Contact Sue Werner if you plan to attend.
- July 23-Book Club gathering TBD
- August 8<sup>th</sup>- Executive Board meeting of Gamma Gamma TBD

## CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Our chapter dues are due by June 25th!** Please send in your dues ASAP! As announced many times, our dues will be collected early this year. Instead of October, we need all chapter before July 1<sup>st</sup>. If you haven't already, please send your \$84 check for dues now to Linda Stolt: 1912 Quaker Hollow Ln., Streamwood, IL 60107-1977  
Please contact Linda if there is a problem: 630-661-6431.
- Cheryl Keifer and the Communications Committee will be working hard to put together our 2019-20 yearbook/directory, and they hope to get it done soon. If you have **ANY changes** to the yearbook/directory please let Cheryl know ASAP. Also, please read about some important changes to our new directory and phone-tree changes in our Communications Committee Report in this newsletter.
- Collegiate Member News: Brit Moran got a position teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade students in a school in Indiana, where she will move shortly. Congratulations, Brit! Brit hopes to join a DKG Chapter near her home in Indiana. Karly Grapenthin is teaching and going to school in Madrid, Spain this summer. Lauren Haman has accepted a teaching position at Maine South H.S. and has decided to join our chapter as an active member soon. This is wonderful news!
- We are collecting gift cards for our collegiate members and scholarship winners, who are still in college. Any gift cards you have and don't plan to use will be appreciated. Our members who mentor our college students already give very generously to them and appreciate any additional gift cards we can give. Please give any gift cards to Denise Pawelczyk.
- Kris Davenport wants to let members know about Robyn's Nest Boutique located at 14 S. Evergreen Ave. in Arlington Heights. The shop features handmade and vintage finery, consigned fashions, accessories, repurposed furniture and decor. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday from 10am to 5pm. Appointments for consignments or donations occur on Mondays. Call 224-735-7400 for inquiries or to schedule an appointment. A portion of all sales benefits homeless children within District 59.
- Sadly, I received a lovely card from Joyce Dunne, who has chosen to resign from DKG and Gamma Gamma Chapter. Joyce has been a member for 41 years and will be sorely missed. As much as Joyce would love to continue her membership with us, her health and mobility prohibits it. But despite resigning from our chapter, Joyce would still love to hear from her Gamma Gamma sisters. Please stay in touch with her and send her your personal wishes. Here is her address: **Joyce Dunne 180 W. Half Day Road, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089.**

## Care Team News:

Please contact Glenda Klein-Mali(and Mary Wrobel) if you have any news for the Care Team. We also love to hear your good news and celebrations! Let us know what you would like shared with your Gamma Gamma sisters via newsletter or other announcements. We can also be discreet, if you don't wish to announce your situation to all chapter members.

- **Jon Fussell** continues to have health issues due to a recent fall and subsequent concussion. I'm sure he would love to hear from members of the Gamma Gamma Chapter as he recovers. His address is: 2746 Dalewood Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
- If you have any extra Get Well cards, blank note cards or stamps, please consider donating them to the Care Team. Our very dedicated Care Team members pay for those items out of their own pockets and we don't want them to stop what they do because of lack of funds. Bring your donations to any of our meeting and give to Glenda Klein-Mali. Thanks!
- As always, please keep up the good wishes and prayers for Charlotte Weber's daughter, Katie. Katie loves to hear from her mom's Gamma Gamma sisters. Here is Katie's address:

**Katie Weber  
3039 18<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
Seattle, WA 98144**

Many of our chapter sisters have health issues or other situations they are dealing with which prevent them from coming to meetings. If you haven't heard from a Gamma Gamma sister in a while, please take a moment to call or email her. We can all do our part to check on our members and support them when they need us most.

To all our Gamma Gamma sisters, don't forget to let us know if you need our support- The Care Team

## COMMITTEE REPORTING

### **SOCIETY BUSINESS:** (Joan Gazdic)

Society Business is met at Joan Gazdic's house on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

In attendance were: Joan Gazdic(chair), Linda Stolt, Sally Scholler, Kathleen Stephansen, Denise Pawelczyk, Gerie Kay and Mary Wrobel. The group was able to set the new budget for 2019-20, with most of the budget staying the same as last year, with the exception of decreases in some areas and increases to committee expenses and induction fees.

The Society Business committee will be reviewing our Chapter By-Laws within the next few months to incorporate Illinois, Lambda State Organization changes or consider any other proposals of Executive Board Members or Standing Committees. Chapter By-Laws are guidelines for our functional practices to maintain Delta Kappa Gamma's program of work, mission and vision, and to fulfill its seven purposes. Changes already under consideration include induction (formerly 'initiation'), collegiate membership, dues collection, and moving Personal Growth and Services responsibilities (service projects) from Educational Excellence-Scholarships Committee to Special Projects Committee. Committee chairs, please bring any additional By-Law revisions to be considered to the attention of Mary Wrobel or Joan Gazdic, Society Business Chair, by August 1. The Executive Board will discuss new proposals at our next Executive Board meeting in August. Society Business will work on the changing roles of

some committees with regards to Educational Excellence-Scholarships and the combined Service and Special Projects Committee.

**Reminder: Our chapter dues of \$84 are due now! Please send your \$84.00 dues ASAP for the 2019-20 year to Linda Stolt: 1912 Quaker Hollow Ln., Streamwood, IL 60107-1977**

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** (Rose Karner)

The Membership Committee met June 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the Barrington Arboretum Panera. The following chapter members were in attendance: Rose Karner(chair), Jane Born, Madelynn Brossard, Jacqui Rothman, Sue Werner, Nancy Harmon and Mary Wrobel. The committee discussed their continued goals for 2019-20: staying connected with members and supporting collegiate members. This committee is working on a survey for our members needs and preferences and a new DKG Chapter brochure. The Membership Committee is meeting at 11am on July 15 at Sue Werner's home to work on the chapter photo album. Please let Sue know if you have photos for the album and if you plan to attend this working luncheon. Rose Karner is looking for chapter members who want to be on the Nomination Committee, to nominate new executive board members in the spring. Let Rose know if you wish to be a part of this process.

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:** (Cheryl Keifer)

The Communication Committee met on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The following members were in attendance: Cheryl Keifer(chair), Geri DeFalco, Chris Dick, Debbie Goodman, Jane Jedlicka, Mary Jayne La Bahn, Pat Rielly, Mary Salee, and Mary Wrobel.

FYI: The Gamma Gamma Yearbook will be completely online once again this coming year. Only member contact sheets and program info will be distributed as handouts in September. Members without computer access will receive hard copies. Others always have the option to print their own additional sections, as needed.

Secondly, this is the last call for data changes. We are updating the Gamma Gamma data base and need all of your new (not previously communicated to Cheryl Keifer) contact information. That includes: name, headshot, home address, \*cell phone number, home phone number (if different from cell), new school and/or job title, birthdate, and also the name, phone number and address of a contact person(someone other than another Gamma Gamma member) whom we can reach if there is ever a need to do so. Please send this info to Cheryl **before July 15th** at [ckeifer@gmail.com](mailto:ckeifer@gmail.com) or call 847.305.9404.

Also, in the fall we will be using a different system for emergency member contact. The phone tree will no longer be used (except for members without computer access). Instead, 'text alerts' will be sent out to refer members to emails sent by our president. Fortunately, emergency messages go out very rarely, but when they are necessary, this should be a more efficient way to help get the news out.

To get these 'heads up' alerts, we need to have the cell phone number that you would use to receive texts. If we don't have a text-able cell phone number for you, you will only receive the emergency email sent by Mary.

Also, please add this name (CHERYL KEIFER) and cell phone number (847.305.9404) to your cell phone contact list so that you and your phone will recognize the text message sender. (On occasion Mary might have to send the text, but you probably have her name and cell phone number in your cell phone contact list already. Please check. (MARY WROBEL - 630.639.2700)

**PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THE 'EMERGENCY' TEXTS.** They will contain no message other than to check your 'email' for a message from our president. NOTE: Most of you already have my contact info, and it's more likely that I'll be contacting you for other reasons. Therefore, please don't ignore any of my messages or be overly concerned when you see a message from me.

This is all new, and there will be some wrinkles. Thanks so much for your patience.

Cheryl Keifer,  
Communications Committee Chair

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE:** (Mary Balk and Honora Quinn)

The Program Committee met May 21<sup>st</sup> and the following members were in attendance: Mary Balk and Honora Quinn(chairs), Sharon Froehlich, Judie King, Carol McHale, Rose Marie Mincey, Dayna Prochaska, Linda Szymkowiak, Gerie Kay and Mary Wrobel.

Meeting participants came up with many great ideas for programs next year. Please refer to the attached matrix of programs, locations, hostesses and reflections for our 2019-20 year.

**Our next program meeting is Thursday, September 19, 2019**-Get and Stay organized!

**EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE-Scholarships:** (Denise Pawelczyk)

**Minutes from Educational Excellence Committee—Scholarships  
Annual Meeting Held June 13, 2019**

Committee Members Present: Sue Wadkins, Peggy Gire, Carol McHale, Sudha Byanna, Sandy Cook, Cammy Basak, and Denise Pawelczyk.

Guests Present: Mary Wrobel and Joan Gazdic.

**Items Discussed**

**\*Review of 2018-2019:**

1. Updating of applications/website descriptions of recruitment grants, chapter grant, and Love of Learning grant completed by subcommittee of members.
2. Visits to "Education Intern" classes in School District 211 conducted in the fall of 2018 by Sandy Cook and Denise Pawelczyk.
3. "Reading Garden" grant for Huff School in Elgin written by Karyn Baldwin and Sandy Cook approved by DKG IL State Organization's Educational Foundation.

4. Collegiate Member Inductions: Karly Grapenthin, Eden Schultz, Brit Moran, and Lauren Haman on December 20, 2018...and Jennifer Navarrete and Rachel Maniscalco on June 12, 2019.
5. Ongoing mentoring of college level students: Sandy Cook will mentor 2019 Gamma Gamma Recruitment Grant winner, Alex Cazarez, and Cammy Basak will mentor 2019 Anne Fussell Scholarship winner, Kate Lechowicz. New committee member, Carol McHale, has volunteered to become a 2020 mentor.
6. Volunteering in early educators' rooms: Karyn Baldwin (former grant recipient; current active member) has welcomed many of us into her classroom as guest readers. Shannon Peterson (former grant recipient) has invited Denise Pawelczyk into her classroom as an extra set of hands.
7. Two new high school recruitment grant recipients selected: Kate Lechowicz, majoring in early childhood at University of Dayton, and Alex Cazarez, attending Harper College for gen eds and hoping to transfer to Purdue University majoring in English education.
8. Mentoring session held spring of 2019: Current and potential mentors met to discuss expectations and ideas related to mentoring of college level young women in a meeting led by Cammy Basak
9. Additional grants received by recruitment grant recipients: Lauren Haman received the Florence A. Cook Recruitment Grant, Eden Schulz received the M. Josephine O'Neil Arts Award, and Steffi Delgado received the Elizabeth and Charles Iwert Scholarship. Karly Grapenthin won the Area 2 IRTA Foundation Scholarship.

**\*Business That Arose During the Year:**

1. Recommendation to Executive Board that service projects portion of committee be moved to Special Projects Committee: To better meet committee's responsibility to promote educational excellence through grant opportunities and mentoring.
2. Changes in committee membership: Invitations to current and former mentors to join committee were made. New Educational Excellence Scholarship Committee members include: Peggy Gire, Cammy Basak, Mary Kay Marrello, and Carol McHale.
3. Additional money for our growing committee needs was requested and reviewed by Society Business: The growth of our collegiate member program was recognized, and a small increase for our committee; as well as all other Gamma Gamma committees; will be voted upon at our September meeting.
4. Collegiate Member Induction changed from December to June: Due to the changes in chapter dues collection, collegiate members can take fuller advantage of collegiate membership opportunities if they are inducted in June.

**New Business: Goals for 2019-2020:**

1. Getting more committee members more actively involved: A sign-up sheet for jobs throughout the year was passed. Jobs include:

\*Helping recruitment grant recipients edit their state level grant application with an emphasis on their essays.

\*Being a member of the recruitment grant selection team.

\*Helping with the proposed fundraiser for the holiday auction—wrapping or making a poster. (See 2019-2020 Goal #2.)

\*Helping write state DKG Foundation Grants for active members' classrooms.

\*Speaking to "Education Intern" classes.

\*Volunteering to plant at Huff School.

\*Willing to volunteer in active members' classrooms.

\*Helping to write a short "pinning" ceremony should a collegiate member transition to active member status. (See 2019-2020 Goal #4.)

IF YOU WERE NOT ABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING, AND WOULD LIKE TO BE A PART OF THESE ACTIVITIES, **PLEASE LET DENISE PAWELECZYK KNOW!**

2. Organizing a (new) holiday auction fundraiser: Substituting a "wine pull" for the "Elf On A Shelf" portion of the 2019 auction. Note: A "wine pull" is a form of a raffle. Donated bottles of wine varying in value are wrapped and sold at a fixed price. (I am suggesting \$10.) Bottles that are "pulled" are the luck of the draw! My goal is to have 20 bottles. I have already collected 11 bottles of wine that are \$10 or more in value, and feel confident I will have the remaining 9 needed by December. I have also solicited different wineries across Illinois for wine tasting certificates to enhance the raffle.
3. Going totally electronic: Making the filing of our recruitment grants fully electronic vs mailing completed applications.
4. Organizing a short, simple ceremony for collegiate members who choose to transition to active member status.
5. Exploring the Cook County Coordinating Council Student Teacher Awards for recruitment grant recipients: Gerie Kay is a member of the CCCC, and will provide more information about this award once she receives it.

*Ending Items:*

1. Annual meeting for Educational Excellence Scholarships Committee will stand alone, and not be in conjunction with the Special Projects Committee meeting.
2. Committee members in attendance voted to continue having lunch time meetings at Riccardo's. No date was set for next year's meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Denise Pawelczyk, Educational Excellence Scholarship Chair, on June 18, 2019.

## **SERVICE AND SPECIAL PROJECTS:** (Kris Beaudette and Gerie Kay)

Service and Special Projects met on June 13<sup>th</sup>. The following members were in attendance: Kris Beaudette, Gerie Kay, Jo Ann Bechtold, Cindy Sheely, Kris Davenport, Rita Tweed, Lorena Williams and Mary Wrobel.

This committee is newly reorganized and will now plan and manage our monthly service projects along with managing the tasks of the Special Projects committee. The following service projects were chosen for the 2019-2020 calendar: September: School supplies, possibly for U-46 schools or other schools with high need students, October: Possible monetary donations to Ingage, which is our program for the month, November: no service project, December: contributions, donations of items, and purchases at our annual Holiday Auction, January: cash donations to Feed My Starving Children, January meeting: donations of children's pajamas/underwear/toiletries for Chicago-based charity, February: TBA fundraiser for Special Olympics, March: donations for District 54 Food Bank, April: no project, May: school supplies.

Other service project ideas under consideration for the future included bags for chemo patients, support for a school in Uganda (Kris D. has a connection), and support for a consignment shop in Arlington Heights that contributes to charity (information will be forthcoming.)

We will begin collecting box tops and pull tabs from cans. One of our committee members will construct collection boxes for these.

Our book swap will continue and **Cindy Sheely** will help with taking any leftover books to the local library for donation.

We reminded members to think about nominating candidates for our chapter Literacy Award, which is presented at our May banquet.

We have given \$50.00 in literacy materials to a local agency and will discuss which agency or school will receive that.

- ❖ **The service project for September 19<sup>th</sup> is school supplies for Huff Elementary School in District U-46. Please see attached school list for ideas of what you can give.**

## **NEWS FROM IL STATE: [www.deltakappagamma.org/IL](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/IL)**

Our state name has been officially changed to **Illinois State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**, formerly known as, Lambda State Organization. Upcoming state activities:

- June 24-26 Teaming Up for Success in Leadership and Technology at Bradley University
- June 28-30 Creative Arts Retreat at Allerton Park, Monticello, IL

The state executive board is currently transitioning to new state board members. If you have questions about the updated state Bylaws and Rules and Regulations, let me(Mary Wrobel) know and I will send them to you.

**UPCOMING MEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

Denise Pawelczyk(June 12), **Sandy Cook**(June 19), **Cindy Nicholson**(June 19), **Gretchin Mahin**(June 22), **Debbie Faems**(June 23), **Mary Salee**(June 30), **Rose Marie Mincey**(July 6), **Mary Marowally**(July 7), **Janet Starr**(July 7), **Cammy Basik**(July 10), **Linda Stolt**(July 12), **Carol McHale**(July 24), **Sudha Byanna**(July 25), **Joyce Dunne**(July 29). Happy Birthday, Ladies!

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- **May Newsletter**
- **Programs Matrix for 2019-20**
- **School Supply list for Huff Elementary School**
- **Mary's Chapter Report for our State Visitor and state board members**

*Mary's Missive*

*Our Collegiate Induction and social gathering at the home of Peggy Gire was truly special! The informal setting was relaxing and enjoyable and I believe everyone had a great time socializing and getting to know our new collegiate members. I had a wonderful time, and I think it's very meaningful to our young women to get to know us and learn about DKG in this way. Thanks to the Educational Excellence Committee for putting this together. I look forward to more of these! As I start my second year as president of this exceptional chapter( hopefully a little wiser) I look forward with enthusiasm to another year of great programs, activities, and connecting with members, new and old.*

*I hope you all have a fun, relaxing rest of your summer!*

*Mary*