



Gamma Gamma Ray



Newsletter of the Gamma Gamma Chapter of IL State
www.gammagamma75.org
October 2019

Happy Fall and Happy Halloween!

We had a great meeting on October 22 at Prince of Peace Church, with 31 members in attendance. **Sharon Froehlich** gave an inspiring reflection about Africa with poems and quotes from famous authors. **Rose Karner** provided funny Halloween Puns for each table, as well as the results of the Gamma Gamma Survey. Please refer to the Membership report for more information on the survey. **Glenda Klein Mali** thanked everyone who gave cards and stamps to the Care Team. **Gerie Kay** reported on the activities of the Cook County Coordinating Council and extended an invitation from Beta Alpha to attend the Holocaust Museum trip on Saturday Nov. 9th. If you are interested in joining this excellent trip, please contact Gerie. This trip will also provide a lunch and 3.5 PD hours. **Denise Pawelczyk** thanked everyone who generously gave gift cards to our 8 college students. Each girl will receive \$40 worth of gift cards! If you haven't received your membership data package for this year(2019-2020) please contact **Cheryl Keifer**. Also, talk to Cheryl if you need help getting on our website. **Kris Beaudette** thanked everyone for the generous giving of donations from last month and announced that multiple donation collections are the exception and we will only be collecting for one donation/service project each month from now on.

Thanks to Society Business for the delicious treats!

Judie King and **Rose Marie Mincey** gave an exceptional and very inspiring program on their Ingage Unlimited trip to Kenya. The slide show was amazing(pictures worth a thousand words!) and their recounting of their adventures in Kenya working with teachers and students, often in deplorable conditions, was phenomenal. I wish all of our Gamma Gamma members could have seen this. Judie and Rose Marie really made a difference in Kenya. It was awe inspiring!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- **October 29- Gamma Gamma book club** is meeting to discuss “Books That Matter Most” by Ann Hood. Cammy Basak is facilitating. Please contact Cammy if you plan to attend: cbasak3@msn.com
- **November 2-** “Anything Goes” social outing at the Metropolis in Arlington Hts. Lunch at Peggy Kinanes Restaurant at 12:30 and 3pm showtime.
- **November 21-Gamma Gamma book club** is meeting to discuss “Carnegie’s Maid” by Marie Benedict. Linda Szymkowiak is facilitating
- **December 3- Gamma Gamma Holiday Auction!** At Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Come and bring friends!

CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS and WANT ADS:

- **Big thanks to our chapter members for their very generous donations to Ingage Unlimited. Judie and Rose Marie are overwhelmed by our generosity. We donated a total of \$628.00 to Ingage Unlimited!**
- We’re already starting to plan for our **December 3rd auction!** There are some changes to the auction this year, and as usual, we need lots of volunteers to help make the auction successful. Please check out the information posted under the **Program Committee report** in this newsletter for details.
- We aren’t doing Elf on the Shelf this year, but if you made items to sell, including baked goods, bring them, price them and put them on the Garage Sale/Bake Sale table. Our members are always looking for items to purchase (without always bidding for them).
- Remember to periodically check out our chapter website (www.gammagamma75.org) which is beautifully managed by our webmaster, Kathy Muench. You can print our new yearbook information. All the information in our 2019-20 yearbook can be found on our website.
- Also, don’t forget to check out our state organization website, www.deltakappagamma.org/IL. You may need to use your member number, found on the back of your yearbook, as a password.

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.

- **Pat Rielly** recently had knee replacement surgery. Pat isn’t fond of Get Well cards, but I’m sure she would enjoy hearing from our chapter members via email.

- **Sandy Cook** is scheduled for knee replacement surgery at the end of October. I know that Sandy loves to hear from her chapter sisters, and loves cards!

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)

The Rules Committee and select members of the Executive Board have had several productive sessions working to update our chapter By-Laws. Proposed revisions should be ready to present to the membership after the first of the year.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: (Rose Karner)

Rose reported on the results of the Membership Survey at our October meeting, which our members took last month. According to the survey most of our members prefer meeting the 2nd week of each month, versus the first week. Tuesday, followed by Thursday are the preferred days to meet. Most of our members are prevented from attending meetings because of other commitments. Vacations and weather/transportation issues also keep our members from attending.

Most of those surveyed indicated that topics about emotional and physical wellness are preferred. That would include, stress reduction, sleep and relaxation, yoga, nutrition, cooking, life choices and pets. Our members also like speakers, who talk on various topics of interest: historical women, authors, gardening, fashion, financial topics, and booking/taking trips.

Topics and activities we like: The Holiday Auction and the Spring Celebration are still a favorite of most of our members. According to the survey, we also liked: Eleanor Roosevelt, gardening, Music and its effects on the brain, Charles Butler Technology, wine tasting, travel agent speaker, Feed My Starving Children, and Get Organized.

Most of us don't go out to eat after our programs usually because it's late, we're too tired, or need to get home to family.

Members offered a number of suggestions and comments:

- The meetings are too long
- limit the business and social time
- keep the speaker to one hour
- start and end on time
- invest in a sound system for our meetings(microphone, etc.)
- Keep up the good work!
- Great job and kudos to all who contribute to the success of this chapter
- Wonderful variety of programs

Thanks to all who took the survey and big thanks to **Stephanie Grande** and **Sue Werner** for helping to compile the survey results.

- ❖ 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. rkarner@me.com

Don't forget to look for new members to recommend for our chapter. The Member Application is attached.

As always, think about women you want to invite to one or more of our meetings and invite to join our chapter. We are always looking for new members!

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: (Cheryl Keifer)

Don't forget: The Gamma Gamma Yearbook is online! The Communication Committee members passed out hard copies of member contact sheets, and programs at-a-glance at our September meeting. Contact Cheryl if you haven't gotten your member data information for 2019-20

ABOUT USING THE DIRECTORY:

Access the directory on your computer by going to **gammagamma75.org**.

Look across the tabs until you see **DIRECTORY**, and click on it.

In the dropdown menu find **GAMMA GAMMA DIRECTORY**, and click on it.

On your home computer, you will be asked to give our Gamma Gamma password: (Upon returning to this site, you will not be asked for that information again. The computer should remember what it is.)

The **TABLE OF CONTENTS** will show what is available to you.

IMPORTANT: Be sure to add the following **directory access information** to the contacts on your cellphone so that you will have it with you and be able to open the directory when you are away from home.

Add contact: **DKG**

Under 'Notes' add:

- **gammagamma75.org**
- our Gamma Gamma password:

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: (Mary Balk and Honora Quinn)

Start thinking about the DKG Auction-it will be here before we know it!
This year our Holiday Auction is Tuesday, December 3rd!!! Thanks to the many people who have already signed up to help!

AND as you think about the items you would like to donate for the auction...please consider purchasing more consumable items, such as packaged food items, gift cards, coffees/teas, sweets, certificates for services, spa treatments, dinners, classes, etc. Many of us have reached that point where we are trying to minimize 'the stuff' we accumulate and are trying to downsize and simplify our lives as well as our homes.

Also remember that gift baskets are a great moneymaker at the auction and a fun item to purchase. Grab a friend or two or three and put together a gift basket to donate. Be creative! Listed below are just a few suggestions for gift baskets for the Silent Auction:

- movie night
- outdoor concert picnic
- personal spa items (or recovering from Holiday Stress!)
- hostess baskets
- gardening
- wine baskets
- grandparent survival basket
- new baby basket
- college care package
- staying cozy on a wintery evening
- family game night

We need lots of volunteers to make the night successful. For each volunteer, it's not a lot of work so **PLEASE** if you are willing to help, contact Honie Quinn or Mary Balk to ask what you can do to help out.

And don't forget: Invite family and friends to our Holiday Auction!!

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE-Scholarships: (Denise Pawelczyk)

*At our September meeting, our very own 2015 Gamma Gamma Recruitment Grant and 2018 Gamma Gamma Collegiate Member, Lauren Haman, was formally acknowledged by our chapter as an active member. As a graduating collegiate member who has started her career as a paid educator, Lauren chose to join our chapter and has paid her active member dues. Her mentor, Sandy Cook, was pleased to purchase Lauren's DKG pin and present it to her at our meeting.

*Mentors of current recruitment grant and Anne Fussell scholarship recipients met earlier during October to equitably divide the gift cards that were so generously donated by Gamma Gamma chapter members. All eight mentors received an amount of gift cards totaling \$40 to be sent via mail or given in person to the young lady that they are mentoring. Cards will be distributed throughout the school year, and mentors will be informing the recipients that the cards are from our chapter in support of their educational pursuits and to show how much we care. (A BIG THANK YOU to the Service and Special Projects Committee for suggesting and supporting this project, and to our chapter members for their readiness to give more than is expected. Our committee recognizes that several "Back to School" service projects were requested in September and are genuinely humbled by our chapter's willingness to embrace them all!)

*Delores Jones, IL State Scholarship Committee Chair, wanted me to remind all of you that there are scholarships and stipends available to IL State Members of DKG. \$3,000 from the

Emilie U. LePhien Scholarship is available to a member who is working toward her PhD in administration. A \$2,000 scholarship will be given for UNDERGRADUATE (attention collegiate members) or GRADUATE work for members enrolled in courses of six hours or more at an accredited college or university after the 2020 IL state convention. IL State also has available funds to award up to \$2,000 for special study stipends to support educational activities not in a degree program. Criteria and application forms can be downloaded from the IL State Organization website [Lambda State of Delta Kappa Gamma International](#). Just click under the heading "Committees" and then download the forms or you can go directly to forms and download the applications there as well.

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

September was a big month of donations for our chapter. Thanks to everyone who donated gift cards to our 8 college students, donated cards and stamps to our Care Team, and all the many school supplies donated for Huff School. Asking for so many donations is not typical, but greatly appreciated. Please don't feel obligated to donate, all donations are optional for our members. In the future, we plan to keep our service projects to one donation per month. We don't have a service project in November, but we hope all our members plan to attend the holiday auction on December 3rd. Bring items to donate for the auction and your money to spend. If you can't attend the auction, please consider a monetary donation to support our scholarship funds.

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

NEWS FROM IL STATE: www.deltakappagamma.org/IL

Bev Johns is inviting all Illinois DKG members to join our new state organization Facebook page. Please consider joining, if you haven't already: [DKG-Illinois Key Women Educators](#)

- **Great news: Debbie LeBlanc, our past state president, has been nominated as the Northeast Regional Director for DKG International!**
- This year our state president, Bev Johns, is asking for [nominations for Making a Difference](#). If you know of someone in our chapter who has made a significant difference in our chapter, in the community, in the state or in the world, please fill out the attached Make a Difference nomination form and send to Bev Johns. Any member can be nominated by more than one person.
- Please consider being a presenter at our 2020 state convention. Presentations can be a 10-minute Takeaway Session, a 45 minute Session, or a Poster Session. The convention will also include vendors again, as well as the Art Mart (with an Under the Sea theme). [A Call for Workshop Presenters](#) application is attached to this email.
- The convention will again have a fun, day-long [Pre-Convention Trip](#) to the historic town of Kimmswick, MO. See attached registration for details and remember this trip fills up fast!

Upcoming state activities:

- Nov. 1: Foundation Stipend applications are due to Karen Parks, twhit13@comcast.net
- Dec. 15, 2019: deadline to receive Workshop Presenter Applications

UPCOMING MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jan Kayson(Nov. 2), **Gail Poisson**(Nov. 14), **Keri Gold**(Nov. 25), **Mary Balk**(Nov. 27), **Debra Hopp**(Nov. 27), **Mary Jayne La Bahn**(Dec. 8). Happy Birthday, Ladies!

ATTACHMENTS:

- **October Newsletter**
- **Call for Workshop Presenters-2020 Convention**
- **Pre-Convention Historic Trip registration**
- **New Member Application**

Mary's Missive

I was grateful we were able to get PD credit for several members at our October 22nd meeting. Our next opportunity for PD credit should be at our January 14 meeting.

It's hard to believe that November is right around the corner with our holiday auction on December 3rd. I hope many of you are thinking about the auction and starting to plan what you want to bring. Also, don't forget to invite your friends!

Finally, I'm happy to announce I'm a grandma again. My daughter had her first child, Isla Ruth, on October 23.

Happy Halloween!

Mary