

Gamma Gamma Ray



Newsletter of the Gamma Gamma Chapter of IL State www.gammagama75.org September 2019

Our Gamma Gamma fall schedule is up and running with many great activities and things to do! Please post your Program-At-A-Glance somewhere in your home, so you can see our upcoming dates and activities.

We had a good meeting on September 19 at Prince of Peace Church. 37 members and 2 guests were in attendance. We collected many school supplies for Huff Elementary School in Elgin (**Karyn Baldwin** was thrilled with the haul!). We also collected 33 gift cards for our college students (Denise is thrilled!), as well as cards and stamps for our Care Team. I'm so proud of our chapter's generosity! I have no doubt all our gifts will go to good use.

Our Communications Committee was on hand to pass out the important data pages from our yearbook/directories. Big thanks to our Communication Committee for all their hard work! **Cheryl Keifer** explained how to access our new Directory online. Please see her directions in Communications Report

Deb Hopp gave a lovely reflection: the story of the boy and the starfish, which, incidentally is the theme for this biennium of Making a Difference. We congratulated **Lauren Haman** with a pinning ceremony, as she bridged over from collegiate member to active member in our chapter. I hope many of our members have a chance to meet Lauren and get to know her in the upcoming months.

Erin Kelly gave a wonderful program with several good strategies and tips on how to Get and Stay Organized.

Finally, thanks to Membership for the delicious treats!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- **September 30!**- Dayna Prochaska needs all the money (checks made out to her for \$32 a ticket) for the show, "Anything Goes" at the Metropolis in Arlington. If you have any questions contact Dayna immediately:
daynaprochaska54@gmail.com or 847-845-6626

- **October 7-Society Business is meeting at Panera**(Barrington Aboretum) at 9am to finish the changes to our rules and by-laws.
- **October 10- Ingage Unlimited Benefit at Concorde Banquets 6-9pm**_Tickets are available at www.ingageunlimited.org
- **October 22-** Our program meeting: **Ingage Unlimited: Kenya** at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. **Judie King** and **Rose Marie Mincey** are presenting their amazing trip to Kenya working with students and teachers there. Society Business is hosting and Sharon Froehlich is giving the reflection. We are giving monetary donations to Ingage Unlimited.
- **October 26-** Giant cupcake sale at Hoffman Estates High to benefit Special Olympics from 11-2pm. Contact Katie McGarvey if you want to attend or can't attend but would like to buy a cupcake: kmcgarvey1@luc.edu
- **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.

CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS and WANT ADS:

- Our Illinois State Organization can now offer PDs([Professional Development credits](#)) and CPDUs/CEUs for our meeting programs. I recently filled out the PD paperwork for our **Ingage Unlimited: Kenya** program for **Oct. 22**. I feel confident we will be able to offer PDs for this program, although I'm not sure how much credit we can get yet. I know I will need those PDs this month! I expect to hear from Joan Rog about this soon. If you know anyone who wants PD credit and would like to attend, please invite friends, etc.
- **Congratulations to Karyn Baldwin** who was awarded a fellowship grant by TeachPlus to participate in a select group of Illinois classroom teachers who will be working in small group sessions on various topics/areas to enact positive changes in Illinois teaching laws. Karyn is participating in a bilingual/ELL work group. Karyn is having a great experience working with teachers all over the state.
- **Thank you** for all the contributed items for the "Making a Difference" collection. The Collegiate Mentors and Care Team really appreciate your donations. The collection will continue at our meetings in October, January, February, and March .
Box Tops for Education (for our local schools) and Pull tabs (for the Ronald McDonald House)cost nothing to bring.
Cards and stamps need to be replenished as time goes by.
Do not feel that you must bring something every time but perhaps you may have missed the September meeting and /or want to bring more at another time.
Watch for our collection box on the Welcome Table and help "Make a Difference".
Gerie Kay - Service and Special Projects Committee

- **Robyn's Nest in Arlington Hts.** Is all about making a difference in the lives of the children living in the community. This shop offers an eclectic assortment of treasured and home-made items, such as clothing, accessories, and furnishings in a fashionable boutique. It's a great place to find vintage to Versace, while helping a kid! Robyn's Nest is located at 14 S. Evergreen in downtown Arlington Hts. Donations are accepted daily and consignments are by appointment and can be scheduled by calling: 224-735-7400. Hours of operation are Tuesday -Friday 10-6, and Saturday 9-4.
- We will continue to do our **chapter book exchange** at our regular monthly meetings this year. If you have a book(s) you have read and wish to donate it, bring it to the September meeting.
- 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.**
- 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. If you have a chance, please remember to thank Kathy for all her hard work putting our yearbook and other essential chapter and state information on our website. We are so grateful for all that Kathy does for our chapter. KMMuench@comcast.net
- 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.

- **Debbie Goodman** has been dealing with months of knee pain despite repeated knee surgery and physical therapy. She is seeing a specialist to try to determine what needs to be done to stop her pain. Please keep Debbie in your thoughts and prayers.
- **Jon Fussell** is recovering at home and was pleased to receive so many get well wishes from Gamma Gamma members. Thanks to all of us who sent him cards and letters. Jon loves to hear from his "sisters".
- **Linda Stolt** wants our members to know that every Friday at Hallmark stores, we can purchase a support card(sympathy, get well, thinking of you) for just the cost of tax. You will need a Hallmark Reward Card in order to do this.
- Please keep **Denise Pawelczyk's** family in your prayers. Denise's mother has recently been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer and has begun chemo therapy

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 has been busy making the necessary changes to our rules and by-laws to include the new language decided by the state and international, as well as make changes to the roles and responsibilities of our committees. Our rule changes will be done soon and sent on to our Illinois State Organization. Joan presented our new budget at our September meeting and the members voted to accept it. Linda Stolt presented our current Treasurer's Report which we also voted on and accepted.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: (Rose Karner)

Thanks to **Madelynn Brossard** we have a new 2019-20 Gamma Gamma brochure. These brochures will be at our meetings-please take a few to give to potential members and anyone you think will be interested in joining our chapter. Membership also passed out surveys for our members to complete. If you haven't had a chance to complete the survey, please see attached survey and send it to Rose Karner after completing it.

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
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

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: (Cheryl Keifer)

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.

Remember, beginning this 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 used instead of phone calls and if you are confused by this, please contact Cheryl Keifer with your questions.

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.

This is all new, and there will be some wrinkles. If you are confused by this, please contact Cheryl Keifer with your questions.

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 your **MEMBER ID**. (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
- The password

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: (Mary Balk and Honora Quinn)

Our next program meeting is Tuesday, October 22, 2019-Ingage Unlimited: Kenya! at Prince of Peace Church. Judie King and Rose Marie Mincey will give a presentation about their time volunteering in Kenya for Ingage Unlimited and monetary donations will be made to Ingage Unlimited, as our service project.

It's Never too early to think about the DKG Auction!
This year our Holiday Auction is Tuesday, December 3rd!!!

And times are a changing! There will NOT be "Elf on the Shelf" this year, but a fun 'wine pull' that will take its place. (Hear more on that at the September meeting!) SOOOO if you typically make items for Elf on the Shelf...you get a break this year!

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

AND...most importantly, WE NEED HELP! We need lots of volunteers to make the night successful. For each volunteer, it's not a lot of work so **PLEASE** look for the sign-up sheet at the next two meetings. To get you thinking, here are positions to consider...

- Set-up
- Purchase poinsettias for centerpieces to be auctioned
- Greeter/help carry-in auction items for some of our members
- Sign-in and money collection
- Price & arrange auction items
- Man the 'Garage Sale' table/collect money from purchases
- Sell 50/50 raffle tickets
- Arrange Silent Auction item
- Order food for dinner
- Purchase holiday paper goods for dinner/dessert
- Bring baked item for dessert
- Purchase and bring beverages, ice, and plastic cups
- Auctioneers
- Tally bids and collect money
- Clean-up

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE-Scholarships: (Denise Pawelczyk)

*A HUGE THANK YOU to the members of our chapter who donated gift cards to our recruitment grant recipients! We collected 33 gift cards ranging from \$5 to \$25 in value!!! These cards will be divided equitably among the mentors to be sent throughout the year to their college mentees on behalf of our chapter. It is so exciting to have the support of our Gamma Gamma sisters!!! I know each and every girl will be THRILLED by these unexpected gifts! You should all be proud of how progressive the Gamma Gamma chapter is! By supporting our recruitment grant recipients and mentoring them throughout their college years, we are forming such a special bond! Evidence can be seen in the uptick of young teacher active membership in our chapter! Karyn Baldwin, Katie McGarvey, and Lauren Haman are all former recruitment grant recipients who are now active members as a result of the relationships they built with our chapter.

*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. Lepthien 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.

*A friendly reminder that at this year's holiday auction, the Educational Excellence Committee--Scholarships has volunteered to do a "wine pull", in lieu of our chapter's "Elf On the Shelf" raffle. If you are a crafter who normally donates items to this portion of the auction, please save any items you may have already made for the 2020 auction..!!! A gracious "thank you", but we will not need them this year.

*Sandy Cook and Karyn Baldwin want to thank all of you who braved the weather and came out to help plant bulbs for the Huff Elementary School Reading Garden! What wonderful role models you all were for the students of that school! How exciting it will be next spring to see those bulbs when they bloom!!

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

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.

*Our book swap will continue and **Cindy Sheely** will help with taking any leftover books to the local library for donation. Bring your used books to our October 22 meeting!

- ❖ **Bring cash or checkbooks to our Oct. 22 meeting, as we are asking for monetary donations for Ingage Unlimited**
- ❖ **Anyone who wishes to attend the Legislative Seminar in Springfield this year on Oct. 26, please contact Kris Beaudette. This seminar is always very informative and worth the time and money to attend.**

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

I attended our Illinois State Organization(formally Lambda State) executive board meeting in Bloomington. The weekend was productive and inspirational. I'm looking forward to this new biennium!

- 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!
- Our state is offering 3 dates for Leadership Training, including at our convention(April 24th). Please check out the attached Leadership Development Form for our chapter team.

Upcoming state activities:

- Oct. 1: Chapter articles for the Newscaster are due to Pat Dewitt, editor.lambda.ilstate@gmail.com
- Oct. 14: Registration for the DKG Legislative Seminar is due
- Oct. 26: Legislative Seminar in Springfield.
- 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:

Mary Roeing(Sept. 30) and **Barb Troeger**(Sept. 30th), **Cheryl Keifer**(Oct. 1), **Lorena Williams**(Oct. 10), **Pat Rielly**(Oct. 11), **Joan Gazdic**(Oct. 15), **Marge Fox**(Oct. 17), **Karyn Baldwin**(Oct. 20), **Kathy Stephansen**(Oct. 24), **Jacqui Rothman**(Oct. 25), **Rose Karner**(Oct. 28), and **Jan Kayson**(Nov. 2). Happy Birthday, Ladies!

ATTACHMENTS:

- **September Newsletter**
- **Call for Workshop Presenters-2020 Convention**
- **Pre-Convention Historic Trip registration**
- **Leadership Training Academy registration**
- **“Making a Difference” Challenge Speech**

Mary's Missive

It's fall and the start of another great Gamma Gamma year!

I learned a lot at the state executive board meeting and had an opportunity to get to know the new state executive board members. Bev Johns, our new state president, is actually a friend of my brother's. Bev and her husband have known my brother, Jay, for a long time...small world!

I was honored to give the Challenge Speech at the executive board meeting and I was pleased that many members approached me afterwards to tell me how much they liked what I said. I'm attaching my speech since I name several of our chapter members in it. As I said in my speech, I'm extremely proud of all the things our chapter members do to make a difference!

I'm looking forward to fall(my favorite season) and all the great activities our chapter is doing in the upcoming months.

See you at our October 22 meeting and program, and don't forget you can receive Professional Development credits for this!

Mary