



Gamma Gamma Ray

Newsletter of the Gamma Gamma Chapter of IL State

www.gammagamma75.org

March 2020

To all of us who are self-distancing and protecting ourselves from COVID-19 virus, I pray that we all stay healthy. Please remember to stay in touch with our Gamma Gamma sisters via text, phone or email especially during this difficult, isolating time.

At our March 10 chapter meeting, we had 33 members, and one guest. We had a short business meeting. **Gerie Kay** told us about the CCCC luncheon, and **Glenda Klein-Mali** reminded us about the book club on March 26. **Sandy Cook** shared **Katie McGarvey's** gratitude for all the gift cards we gave toward the Special Olympics fund-raiser-they raised over \$200! **Cheryl Keifer** gave a lovely and whimsical reflection, "Planting a Love Garden" about what we should plant in our gardens. **Linda Stolt** gave the treasurer's report and reminded us that we will need to pay our dues beginning as early as next month. **Kris Beaudette** thanked everyone for the food bank donations and talked about a new potential member to our chapter. **Phyllis Ardaugh**, an Early Childhood teacher in District 54, is excited to become a member of Gamma Gamma in May. **Mary Balk** reminded us that our May banquet is May 7th and encouraged all of us to attend. More information about our banquet will be coming next month. **Cheryl Keifer** reminded us to let her know if there are any changes to our information for the chapter directory. **Denise Pawelczyk** announced the good news of **Jennifer Navarette** (a Gamma Gamma collegiate member) winning the Florence A. Cook grant, which will be awarded at the state convention in April. Denise also shared that **Eden Schulz** (collegiate member) recently performed an excellent senior recital with the clarinet she bought with the grant funds she received. We have two more college students eligible to become collegiate members this summer. Denise asked if anyone would like to become a mentor for a college student/grant recipient. As a part of today's garden theme, **Rose Karner** shared common flowers/herbs and their sentiments. That list is attached to this newsletter. Finally, congratulations to our new executive board, who will be inducted at our May banquet: **Kris Beaudette**, President; **Madelynn Brossard** for 1st VP and Membership Chair, **Judie King and Rose Marie Mincey** as co-2nd VPs and Program Chairs. **Sharon Froehlich** as recording secretary, and **Jacqui Rothman** as corresponding secretary. All other executive board positions are unchanged. We have three new potential members, who will be inducted at the May banquet: **Matina Kantzavelos, Diana O'Donnell, and Phyllis Ardaugh**. Finally, thanks to **Rose Karner**, who provided packets of seeds for members and thanks to the Communications Committee for the delicious treats!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- March 26 Book Club: We are discussing When Life Hands You Lemons by Katie Weber (daughter of Charlotte Weber) at Riccardo's at 5:30pm. Contact Glenda Klein-Mali (glendaklein@sbcglobal.net) if you plan to attend.
- April 7: Our New Member Tea at Mary Balk's home at 4pm with an executive board meeting following
- April 24-26: DKG State Organization Convention in St. Louis
- May 7: Our annual May Banquet at Bridges of Poplar Creek

CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS and WANT ADS:

- **Thanks to everyone who donated wine for our Gamma Gamma table at the Art Mart at this year's convention. If you still want to donate a bottle of wine, give your bottle to Mary Balk or any executive board member before April 7th.**
- **Linda Stolt** asked us to vote for her for an IEA-Retired position on the executive board. If she sends you a ballot in the mail, please vote for Linda Stolt-thanks!
- **Beta Alpha Chapter has invited us to join them on March 28** (11-1:30pm) at the IL Holocaust Museum for a program on Ruth Bader Ginsburg to Celebrate Women's History Month. The \$30 cost (\$25 for seniors) includes lunch and 2.5 PDUs (if you need). Contact Beta Alpha at www.betaalphadkg.com if you want to register for this.
- Remember to periodically check out our chapter website (www.gammagamma75.org) which is beautifully managed by our webmaster, Kathy Muench. Our website password is: GG#75DKG. 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: Glenda Klein-Mali

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!

Sandy Cook is having knee replacement surgery on March 17th. I know Sandy would love cards or words of cheer and encouragement as she recovers.

Send cards to her address: 2429 Cape Cod Circle, Elgin, IL 60124

Her cell for texts: 847-710-3191. We hope her surgery goes smoothly.

Judy McGuire was in the hospital because her electrolytes were out of balance due to hydration issues. She is also taking infusions for ulcerative colitis (a complicated autoimmune disease). Judy would love cards of cheer, wellness and comfort during her difficult recovery. No phone calls, but you can email or send cards to 124 N. Bristol Dr., Bloomingdale, IL, 60108. Judy is a very religious person and would appreciate prayers, as well.

Remember: 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTING

SOCIETY BUSINESS: (Joan Gazdic)

Chapter dues for 2020-2021 will remain the same as the previous year. Active membership dues are \$84. Reserve membership dues are \$42, and collegiate members pay \$20. Our annual chapter dues are due in May, and no later than June 30th. You can send your check to **Linda Stolt** at 1912 Quaker Hollow Ln., Streamwood, IL 60107. Make checks out to Delta Kappa Gamma. You can also bring your dues check to Linda Stolt at our May Banquet.

Society Business drafts a proposed budget for 2020-2021 early in the summer based on the known number of continuing members and incoming funds.

Thank you in advance for getting your check to Linda early or on time.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: (Rose Karner)

We look forward to welcoming Matina, Diana and Phyllis into our chapter at our May banquet. Please plan to be there to meet and welcome these three amazing educators into our Gamma Gamma Chapter.

The Executive Board members will have an opportunity to meet these soon to be inducted members at our April 7th New Members Tea.

*And as always, don't forget to invite women to one or more of our meetings so they can see what our chapter is all about. We are always looking for new members!

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: (Cheryl Keifer)

With all of the cancellations lately, it is so important that we have everyone's current cell phone number and email address. Please send all changes to Cheryl Keifer at 847.305.9404 or cherylkeifer@gmail.com. Also, if your home address or emergency contact info (name, address, phone of family member or close friend) has changed, please let us know that, too. Thank you!

PROGRAM COMMITTEE: (Mary Balk and Honora Quinn)

Please mark your calendar for our May Banquet on May 7th. We will be installing new executive board officers and inducting new members. More information about this will be sent out in April.

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE-Scholarships:

(Denise Pawelczyk)

***Jon Fussell** has graciously mailed a check to our chapter to fund the Anne Fussell Scholarship again this year! He sends his greetings to all, and thanks the chapter for everything that we do to help young ladies in their pursuit of achieving their teaching degrees.

*Applications for our 2020 chapter recruitment grant are online. We are anxiously awaiting completed applications from graduating female high school seniors to arrive!!!

***Carol McHale** has graciously volunteered to be a mentor next year for one of our grant recipients. Several chapter members have inquired about our mentorship program. If you would like to be our second 2020 mentor, PLEASE contact me by April 1st. I will be holding a mentor meeting in April for past, current, and upcoming mentors to talk about the process.

***Gamma Gamma Chapter Scholarship and Love of Learning Stipend** applications along with evidence of payment need to be submitted to me no later than April 13th. Applications can be found on our gammagamma75.org website.

*CONGRATULATIONS are in order for many of our chapter recruitment grant recipients who are away at college:

--**Jennifer Navarette**, a junior at U of I, Chicago, is the Area 1 recipient of the Florence A. Cook Recruitment Grant awarded by the DKG IL State Organization. She is excited and humbled by her selection. She shared with me, "I could not have won this award without the support of my DKG family. My mentor and Gamma Gamma sisters helped me realize my potential, and gave me the motivation I needed to apply for the grant". (Jennifer was inducted in 2019 as a Gamma Gamma collegiate member.)

--**Eden Schultz** recently gave her senior recital at Concordia University. Those of us in attendance were both proud and thrilled to be a witness to her talent. Eden played her new clarinet; which she was able to purchase with the monies from the M. Josephine O'Neil Arts Award which she received from the IL State Organization last year. Eden shared that she will be student teaching in Palatine this upcoming fall. She is especially excited because she is an alum of the Palatine school system! (Eden was inducted in 2018 as a Gamma Gamma collegiate member.)

--**Karly Grapenthin** will be graduating from NIU this spring with a BS in Ed, Special Education; with an endorsement in ESL, Spanish. She shared that she recently attended a job fair, and has already gone on an interview. Being a graduating collegiate member, Karly is eligible to become an active member of the Gamma Gamma chapter. She has been extended an invitation to do so. (Karly became a collegiate member of our chapter in 2018.)

--**Steffi Delgado and Jada Coakley** are our soon-to-be college level juniors. As such, they are eligible to be candidates for collegiate membership in our chapter. If they accept the invitation to join, they will be inducted during the summer of 2020.

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

At our March 10th general meeting at Our Redeemer's UMC, we collected many bags of canned and packaged food for the District 54 Food Bank. Thank you all for your generosity!

On May 7th, at our May Banquet, we will be collecting school supplies for Elgin and District 54 schools.

*Our book swap will continue and any leftover books will be taken to the local library for donation.

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

Message from Bev Johns, President:

As of today, it is too early for us to make an informed decision about the convention April 24-26, 2020. I am monitoring daily and when we do make any decision it will be based on:

- 1. Consultations with health officials in the St. Louis, Missouri, area about how safe it is to come into the area. First and foremost is the health and safety of our attendees and their families.**
- 2. The financial implications of any decision. I have reviewed the hotel contract and am looking, together with others, at the complexity of what we can and cannot do. If we were to cancel as of today, we may face a hotel penalty of \$43,433 plus any state and local taxes.**

This will not be an easy decision for all of us and may require negotiation with the hotel, cooperation with the State of Missouri, and the city of St. Louis.

Tech Seminar Announced

We are happy to announce the scheduling of our first Tech Seminar for 2020. It will be on Wednesday, July 15, 2020, at the Illinois Education Association building in Bloomington, Illinois. Mark your calendar now for a great day of learning. Our Communications and Marketing committee as well as the Events Planning and Management committee are working hard to find a location for seminars to be held in Northern Illinois and Southern Illinois. If you know of any possible location, please let Mary Jane Sterling know by contacting her at: sterling@fsmail.bradley.edu. What is needed is a location that could house two sessions at one time. It could certainly be a school or any place that has two meeting rooms.

Upcoming state activities:

- Leadership Academies: April 24**(in St. Louis), Saturday **June 6** at Bradley University, and Thursday, **July 16** at the IEA building in Bloomington, Illinois.
- Annual DKG Illinois State Organization Convention: April 24-26**
- Leadership Academy June 6 at Bradley University, Peoria**
- June 23, 24 and 25: Creative Arts Retreat, Allerton Park, IL**

UPCOMING MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carol Escortia(Mar 20), **Karen DeVecchio**(Mar 22), **Alice Ryan**(Mar 26), **Geri DeFalco**(Mar 27), **Maureen Briza**(Mar 31), **Sue Werner**(April 7), **Mary Hurd**(April 10), **Mary Stitt**(April 14) and **Nancy Harmon**(April 21) Happy Birthday, Ladies!

Mary's Missive

The COVID-19 virus has thrown a wrench into many upcoming plans, and I'm sure we're all coping as best we can. I'm hoping by April all the cancelled meetings, closed buildings and banned travel will be lifted, at least somewhat. But if not, we will shoulder on as best we can. As of now, the April Tea, State DKG Convention and May Banquet are still on. I don't know what the next couple months will bring, but don't panic! Take care of yourselves, and let's all pray that things get better real soon. And please stay in touch with your Gamma Gamma sisters.

All my best,

Mary

ATTACHMENTS:

- **March Newsletter**
- **Planting a Love Garden**
- **Flowers and Herbs and their sentiments**