

Gamma Alpha Bulletin “The G.A.B.”

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Reminders

Check out our website at:

www.migammaalpha.org

Next Meeting:

April 7 4:30-6:30 Elliott
Elliott Elementary is located at 30800 Bennington in Westland. Take Merriman south to Parkwood (Inn & Out party store). Turn left (east) on Parkwood. Drive to the first stop sign. Turn left. Enter school through the door nearest the parking lot. Nancy and Grace will guide the *craft challenged* through two projects. There is no cost to members for the small projects. The stepping stone costs \$38. Call Grace. Join us for an early evening of snacks, conversa-

Legislation Report

Bill to Fix No Child Left Behind

In a major breakthrough on No Child Left Behind, the first Republican-initiated bill to amend the No Child Left Behind Act was introduced March 14 by Rep. Lee Terry (R-NE). The State and Local Education Flexibility Act (H.R. 1177) is consistent with many of the changes NEA and others have long sought.

Among other things, the legislation:

- Better aligns NCLB and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by allowing certain students with cognitive disabilities to be assessed in a manner consistent with their Individualized Education Plans.
- Ensures that local assessments are comparable across districts and are aligned with state content standards.
- Provides greater flexibility to help special education and rural teachers who teach multiple subjects meet NCLB highly qualified requirements.
- Exempts limited-English proficient students' test scores from Adequate Yearly Progress calculations during their first three years.
- Ask your Representative (Thaddeus McCotter) to cosponsor H.R. 1177.

NEA Insider, March 18, 2005



*“Education is not
the filling of a pail,
but the lighting of a fire.”*

-- William Butler Yeats

Judi's Gems



Dear Gamma Alpha Sisters,

State Convention is coming in April. If you have not attended a convention, I highly recommend it! I was initiated in April and went to my first convention the next month! I haven't missed one since then. Delta Kappa Gamma has nearly 100,000 members worldwide. Being part of a vast honorary Society and meeting women educator's from all parts of our state who care about education and who promote women's causes makes me proud to be part of the Society. This year's State Convention will be held in Grand Rapids. There is lots to see and do in Gerald Ford country. Many informative workshops are being offered for needed CEU credit. The cost of CEU credit is only \$10.

The Regional Conference will be held in Cleveland in August. Registration forms will be put on the Gamma Alpha website as soon as Jackie gets them. Both functions offer members the opportunity to get involved in Society functions beyond the chapter level. The cost of the convention and conference is small in comparison to what you receive. Please consider attending.

Remember to **RSVP** to Lynne April's meeting.

Judi



Minutes in a Minute

Minutes for February 24, 2005

Eighteen members were present for the February 24 meeting at Ford Career Technical Center. They were: Chris Smith, Jackie Smart, Judi Fisher, Lynne Elsesser, Esther Loskowske, Grace Morgan, Bonnie

Franka, Joan Murray, Helen Mate, Pat Curd, Sherry Green, Marie Canzoneri, Amy Wainwright, Cindy Dietz, Colleen Retherford, Donna Colaianne, Sandy Becher, and Mary Jo Dreffs.

Tony's crew prepared a special meal for our last meeting at the Center: chicken Wellington, glazed carrots, rice, salad, rolls and a "swan" custard. It was delicious!

After dinner Amanda Quinn, Community Wellness Coordinator/ Health Educator, presented an informative power point entitled "What Every Woman Should Know About Heart Disease." She began with some myths about heart disease. She explained that heart disease is women's number 1 killer—a fact most women don't know. Amanda covered risk factors that can predict if a woman might develop heart disease. She also explained that some risk factors can be modified, such as smoking, cholesterol, obesity, and physical activity. Some risk factors like blood pressure and diabetes can be controlled. Amanda gave members a "Go Red for Women" pin that was shaped like a dress. This pin, and the color red, are symbols for women and heart disease. By wearing the pin, Amanda hopes this will raise awareness and empower women to take charge of their health, lower their risk of these often preventable diseases and live longer, stronger lives.

Next meeting is at Elliott Elementary on April 7, 4:30-6:30. We will be making stepping stones (prepay Grace \$38 if interested Contact her at:

delkene@aol.com

Grace will give you some particulars when you contact her. We will have a no-cost to members craft presented by Nancy C. Service Projects will provide the snacks. Please try to attend. RSVP to Lynne. By April 1. No fooling!

Date to be determined for planning meeting for Executive Board, Committee Chairmen **and** interested members. This is the meeting where we share ideas for next year's programs.



Amanda Quinn, Community Wellness Coordinator/Health Educator and Judi Fisher at FCTC prior to the heart smart meeting.

In case you forgot, the following are Committees and Chairs:

- Membership- Marie
- Nominations- Marie
- Finance- Cindy
- Research- Cindy
- Professional Affairs- Marge
- Personal Growth- Barbara
- Service Projects- Esther
- Music- Esther
- Legislation- Cindy
- Birthday Dinner- Gina
- World Fellowship- Carol H.
- Grant-in-Aid- Mary Jo
- (This is yours forever!)
- Yearbook- Colleen R.
- Newsletter- Jackie
- Empathy- Carol A. & Nancy C.
- Historian- Sherry

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Smith, Recording Secretary

March Birthdays

- 11 Nancy Chiasson
- 13 Esther Loskowske

April Birthdays

- 1 Lynne Elsesser
- 15 Gina Strand
- 29 Colleen Fisher

International



Update

The Regional Conference will be held in Cleveland. Registration form for this seminar will be on our chapter website.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation

The Lucile Cornet Professional Development Seminar

Unleash Student Potential Through Motivation and Best Practices

or

“Put Your Foot in Your Hand and Go!”

Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, Ballroom B

Tuesday, August 2, 2005

9 am – 4 pm; Registration 8:15 – 8:45 am

Key Concepts that can be used from Pre-K through college:

Motivation: What is it? Can you “catch it?” Of COURSE you can! We’ll discuss key points of this critical element of successful classrooms and identify the importance of a positive teacher attitude and its impact on student performance.

Struggling Learners: Who are they? What are their characteristics? Most importantly, what key strategies can be used to reach them?

Communication Skills: Identify core skills in Reading and Writing that are critical to improving student performance and achievement. Receive “use-it-tomorrow” handouts for all skills!

Power Verbs: Learn how to incorporate critical “power verbs” into your *every day* teaching! Uncover how these words impact constructed response questions.

“Courtroom Capers”: Wrap up the day with a highly interactive team activity that addresses the critical test question, “From whose perspective is the story being told?”

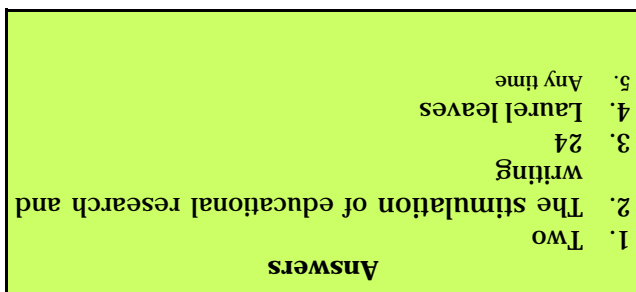
Implementation Project: Receive materials and templates for implementing workshop strategies to receive full CEU credit.

www.deltakappagamma.org



Society Trivial Pursuit Questions

1. How many successive terms may an elected officer serve in Michigan?
2. The International Educator's Award shall be maintained for ...?
3. How many letters are in the Greek alphabet?
4. What are the traditional symbols of achievement and distinction found on the key and crest?
5. When may requests for emergency assistance from the Wilma Adams fund be made?



The Time Traveler's Wife

By Audrey Niffenegger

This clever and inventive tale works on three levels: as an intriguing science fiction concept, a realistic character study and a touching love story. Henry De Tamble is a Chicago librarian with "Chrono Displacement" disorder; at random times, he suddenly disappears without warning and finds himself in the past or future, usually at a time or place of importance in his life. This leads to some wonderful paradoxes. From his point of view, he first met his wife, Clare, when he was 28 and she

was 20. She ran up to him exclaiming that she'd known him all her life. He, however, had never seen her before. But when he reaches his 40s, already married to Clare, he suddenly finds himself time traveling to Clare's childhood and meeting her as a six-year-old. The book alternates between Henry and Clare's points of view, and so does the narration. Reed ably expresses the longing of the one always left behind, the frustrations of their unusual lifestyle, and above all, her overriding love for Henry. Likewise, Burns evokes the fear of a man who never knows where or when he'll turn up, and his gratitude at having Clare, whose love is his anchor. The expressive, evocative performances of both actors convey the protagonists' intense relationship, their personal quirks and their reminiscences, making this an excellent read.

Service Project Report



Esther the bag lady, Joan, Judi and Helen get the table ready for our activity bags for the Cystic Fibrosis patients at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. We made 24 bags chocked full of fun non-educational games and toys that will help young patients while away boring treatment time. Judi delivered the bags to Mott the following week



Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids Delta Kappa Gamma Convention April 15-17, 2005

Rates: Single Occupancy: \$99.00 Double Occupancy: \$99.00

*Rates are subject to applicable sales and hotel taxes, currently 13%.

Please mail or fax this directly to the Crowne Plaza before March 22, 2005. Reservations made after this date will be subject to rate and space availability.

ATTENTION RESERVATION STAFF:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Number of Adults: _____ Number of Children: _____

Name of Other Adults Sharing Room: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

Room Request: _____ King _____ 2 Double Beds

 _____ Non Smoking _____ Smoking

(Subject to Availability)

Reservations must be guaranteed by first night's room and tax deposit or

Credit Card No. _____ Exp Date _____

Reservations will not be processed without a form of guarantee.

*Hotel cannot guarantee that group rooms will be located near each other.

*Check-in time is 4:00 pm; Check-out time is 12:00 noon

*Reservations may be cancelled by 6:00 pm on the day of arrival without penalty.

5700 28th Street S.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49512 Phone: (616) 957-1770 Fax: (616) 957-0629

<http://www.grandrapidscrowneplaza.com>

Make checks payable to Delta Kappa Gamma

Dietary Needs: Requirements must be listed with this registration form to avoid duplicate costs. Special tickets will be provided in the registration packets of those who indicate the following needs:

Vegetarian ____ Diabetic: ____

Handicap Assistance: There is elevator service to guest rooms. There is elevator service and a hallway ramp to the workshop floor functions. If you require special guest room accommodations, please notify the hotel staff directly when you make your reservations.

Pease mail this form and payment to:

**Kristen Miles--Registrar
1043 Beechwood St. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505-3732
(616) 365--1817
MilesKri@comcast.net**

Cancellation: A person having to cancel will receive a refund provided her written request is post-marked by March 31, 2005. (Standing rule 7:01 of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.) Requests for cancellations must be sent to the same person to whom the registration form was sent.



THE LITERACY SITE

Remember the magic of your first book? Perhaps you were nestled in the arms of a parent, or sharing a giggle with a friend. Whatever your first memory of a book, books are a powerful tool; they stir the senses, inspire the imagination and spark a love of reading that can last a lifetime. But what of children who have no books? ***The Literacy Site*** gives you a way to share the magic of books and promote the love of reading among children who might otherwise never discover the joy of their first book. Your click on the red "Give Free Books" button at ***The Literacy Site*** generates books for children in need, funded by site sponsors and provided through our award winning charity partner, First Book. In the last three years, First Book has distributed over 20 million books to children in hundreds of communities. The number of books we put in children's hands depends on the number of visitors who click the "Give Free Books" button on ***The Literacy Site***. Please click every day, and encourage friends and family members to do the same.

www.theliteracysite.com

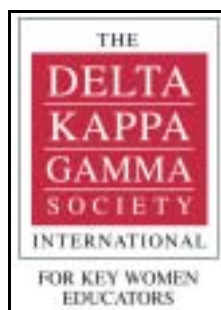


Gamma Alpha Executive Board 2004-2006

Empowerment Through Literacy and Numeracy

Judi Fisher:	President
Lynne Elsesser:	First Vice President
Marie Canzoneri:	Second Vice President
Chris Smith:	Recording Secretary
Jackie Smart:	Corresponding Secretary
Cindy Dietz:	Treasurer
Grace Morgan:	Past President

Gamma Alpha Newsletter, Photos, and Archives at:
www.migammaalpha.org
Contact Jackie with information/corrections/accolades



Gamma Alpha
Jacquelyn Smart
20158 Southampton
Livonia, MI 48152

Address Label