



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International DKG

Serving Women Educators from Western Wayne County
Gamma Alpha is a Proud Member of Detroit Metro Coordinating Council
April-May 2021
Volume 41, Issue 5

GAMMA ALPHA BULLETIN

Presidents' Message
Amy Wright and Carole Lower
Co-Presidents



Gamma Alpha Friends,



Hurray! Spring has sprung! I am loving this gorgeous weather! The hyacinths and daffodils look great, though the magnolia tree remains on strike after the 2 days of wintery weather last week. It is so nice to be outdoors again, going for walks, and getting the yard ready for summer fun! I am looking forward to having friends over and subjecting them to my debatable grilling skills. If you would enjoy a meal and beverage on my porch, I am taking reservations for call ahead seating.

This spring we have a variety of DKG events available. On Tuesday, April 13th, at 7:00 pm there is a fun program that I like to call "Crafting Coasters with Claire." Claire Rettenmund is a very talented member of DKG and popular presenter at Women in the Arts. See the sign-up details on page 12.

Our State Convention is a virtual event April 30th - May 1st. There will be a nice variety of sessions. The details are on page 2.



May's Birthday Dinner will also be a virtual event, but no less festive. And, wait for it... our June Planning Meeting is set to be a real live face-to-face event! We will each bring our own little picnic to nibble while we scheme and plan all the

shenanigans the chapter will enjoy for 2021-2022. Carole wanted me to start the rumor that there will be a prize for the best, little personal picnic spread.



Many of us either have or are now nursing a sore arm from shot #1 or shot #2 of the vaccine. My right arm is still smarting from shot #1 on Monday. I am counting down the days until shot #2, and I am oh - so looking forward to easing back into the social scene again!

(Continued on page 12)

CALENDAR	2-3
ZOOM CONVENTION	2
APRIL/MAY BIRTHDAYS	4
FEB ZOOM MTG.	4-7
SEASONAL RECIPE	8
BOOK SHELF	9
SEEDLINGS	10
MARCH ZOOM MTG.	11

REMINDERS

Women in the Arts Registration is in the Spring *Wolverine* you recently received.

Please attend the Virtual Convention on Friday to see Amy installed as State Corresponding Secretary and attend a session or two on Saturday morning.



CALENDAR 2020-2021



The next few events have been canceled or rescheduled.

April 30 - May 1, 2021 (Friday, Saturday)

DKG Michigan State Organization Executive Board and State Convention

The convention will be held virtually via Zoom! Tune in to watch Amy Wright installed as State Corresponding Secretary! Cut and paste the web address into your browser to register or just click the link.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCb5U455KhT76AFgjlC3cAcZhjzJc_ZgX8c0LZyg7CHvWw/viewform?gxids=7628

Below is the schedule of events for Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1, 2021.

DKG Michigan Spring Virtual Convention
April 30 - May 1, 2021

Friday, April 30

Check In Time: 4:45 pm - 5:00 pm and 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Room A: Michigan Meeting Room	Pre-convention workshop Tamoha Binte Siddiqui, DKG World Fellowship Recipient	5:00 pm - 5:50 pm
Room A: Michigan Meeting Room	Executive Board and General Membership Meeting (business, election/installation of officers, awards - State Woman of Distinction, Distinguished Service)	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Saturday, May 1

Michigan Meeting Room (A) Will Open at 8:30 am

Rooms	9:00 am - 9:50am	10:00 am - 10:50 am	11:00 am - 11:50 am
Room A: Michigan Meeting Room	Check in, socialize, choose the sessions to attend	Check in, socialize, choose the sessions to attend	Check in, socialize, choose the sessions to attend
Room B	Accepting our Challenge: 2021 Leadership Development Training Session for Chapter Presidents and Officers. Dr. Dorothy Sample, Mu, and Jacquelyn Smart, Gamma Alpha	DKG Top 10 Chapter Strategies for a Post Pandemic World. Dr. Debbie LeBlanc, Northeast Regional Director, Society representative	Roundtable Discussion: Staying Connected While Staying Safe. DKG members
Room C		Roundtable discussion: Education in the Year of the Pandemic. DKG members	"I Collect Secrets." Laura Ruggles, Sigma
Room D		Legislation and How It Affects Us All. Lynn Mason, Sigma	Nature's Path to Mindfulness. Linda McLean, Beta Chi

May 15, 2021 (Saturday) Metro Council Field Trip RESCHEDULED FOR MAY 21, 2022

Program: **Wild Women of Detroit Bus Tour**

May 20, 2021, (Thursday) CANCELED

This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom! More Information will be emailed to members.

Gamma Alpha Chapter's 42nd Birthday Dinner

Program:

- Birthday Dinner
- Chapter Woman of Distinction presentation
- Grant-in-Aid presentation
- Induction of New Members
- Service Project Donation
- Friend of Education award
- Honor Retirees
- Present Lifetime Service Award
- More news about Service Project donations in a future newsletter.

June 12, 2021 (Saturday)

Planning

Place: Carole Lower

45766 Fermanagh

Northville MI 48168

Time: 11:00 - 2:00

Bring: Your own picnic and Program ideas

DKG International News

DKG International Convention, Austin TX July 21 - 24

Information taken from DKG.org

International President Becky Sadowski



Howdy Y'all! Annie Webb Blanton had a vision for our Society, and it will come alive at The San Antonio, Texas International Conference July 21-24, 2021! President Becky Sadowski invites us to celebrate the DKG: **Opportunities, Contributions, and Impact** our members have realized because of their membership in the organization.

The San Antonio Marriott River Center Hotel, situated on the vibrant River Walk in downtown San Antonio, TX, offers stunning views of either downtown San Antonio or the picturesque River Walk. The conference features engaging and real-world speakers, informative and timely workshops and short presentations, exhibits and vendors. San Antonio is a destination for many and here is a sample of sites for you to visit while you are there. Indulge in shopping at the El Mercado/Market Square,

relive the history of the Alamo, enjoy the beauty of the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, visit the oldest religious community in the state of Texas at the San Fernando De Bexar Cathedral, and be sure to plan a trip to the McNay Art Museum, which specializes in 19th and 20th century European and American art. Everything is bigger in Texas and this conference is no exception!"

April

1 Lynne Elsesser
3 Marcia Scarr

BIRTHDAYS



May

5 Liz Frazier

February 3, 2021

After January's meeting, we had our Co-VPs of Membership call all the members we hadn't seen yet on Zoom and our Corresponding secretaries followed-up by mailing a hard copy of a letter with updates from our January meeting and step-by-step instructions on 3 different options to join Zoom meetings. We had 21 members attend the January Zoom meeting.

For Gamma Alpha's February meeting, we had a Valentine's Themed Scavenger Hunt followed by three rounds of show & tell and a bonus round to contribute to the newsletter.

We had a virtual happy hour, and we gave members 3 minutes to grab the following 3 items:

Grab something that...

- Is heart-shaped or is for heart health
- Makes your heart sing
- Makes you laugh or makes your heart smile
- Bonus Round: Email or text the Corresponding Secretary something that makes your heart race! (with no explanation of what it was!) We will use the contributions as fodder for future newsletters and maybe to use is a "Guess Who Sent This" type of game.
 - ◇ A photo
 - ◇ A recipe
 - ◇ The name of a good book
 - ◇ A favorite poem

We had a good time seeing and laughing with each other and it was very little work to prepare upfront.



February 3, 2021 Zoom Meeting



Co-presidents Amy Wright and Carole Lower led our February 3 virtual “Happy Hour” meeting. Members are showing their heart scavenger hunt items.

We will be using Zoom for future meetings. Below is the info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5760748757>

Meeting ID: 576 074 8757

or

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

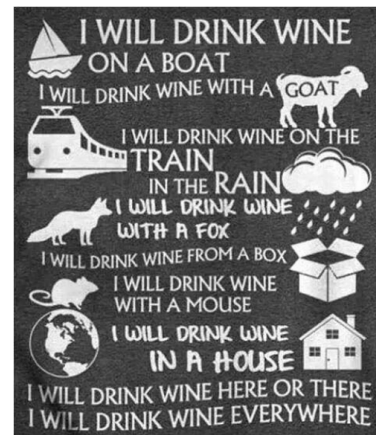
Meeting ID: 576 074 8757

This Makes Our Heart Race



I'VE REACHED THAT AGE
WHERE MY BRAIN GOES
FROM "YOU PROBABLY
SHOULDN'T SAY THAT." TO
"WHAT THE HELL, LET'S SEE
WHAT HAPPENS."





RECIPE OF THE MONTH

HEALTHY RHUBARB MUFFINS

Healthy rhubarb muffins that are slightly sweet, with soft, fluffy interiors and crunchy tops. Made in one bowl, with whole grains but no refined sugar, they are a delicious snack for the whole family!

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup coconut oil
- 1 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1/2 cup maple syrup
- 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 cups white whole wheat flour (250 g all-purpose or 50/50 all-purpose and whole wheat may be swapped)
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 1/2 cups rhubarb cut into 1/2 inch pieces
- 1/2 cup walnuts
- 2 tablespoons coarse sugar (for sprinkling tops)

Instructions

1. Heat oven to 400°F. Line muffin trays with 16 parchment or silicone liners.
2. In a large microwave safe bowl, melt the coconut oil. Stir in the Greek yogurt, maple syrup, applesauce, eggs and vanilla extract. If coconut oil hardens, pop it back into the microwave and heat on 20 second increments until it melts back in.
3. Add the flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and cinnamon and mix until just combined.
4. Fold in the rhubarb and walnuts.
5. Spoon muffin batter into liners until it just pokes over the top of the pan.
6. Sprinkle with coarse sugar.
7. Bake for 20 minutes, or until a toothpick comes out cleanly. Be careful if your muffin tray is near the top of the oven, rotate it to the middle/bottom if possible.
8. Store in an air tight container at room temperature for up to 3 days or in the freezer for up to 3 months



BOOK SHELF

The Woman Who Smashed Codes

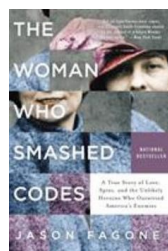
By Jason Fagone

While in Florida, I read NPR's Best Book of 2017, *The Woman Who Smashed Codes*. The NY Times said, "Not all superheroes wear capes, and Elizebeth Smith Friedman should be the subject of a future Wonder Woman movie." This is the incredible true story of the greatest codebreaking duo that ever lived, an American woman and her husband who invented the modern science of cryptology together and used it to confront the evils of their time, solving puzzles that unmasked Nazi spies and helped win World War II.

It begins in 1916, at the height of World War I, brilliant Shakespeare expert Elizebeth Smith went to work for an eccentric tycoon on his estate outside Chicago. The tycoon had close ties to the U.S. government, and he soon asked Elizebeth to apply her language skills to an exciting new venture: code-breaking. There she met the man who would become her husband, groundbreaking cryptologist William Friedman. Though she and Friedman are in many ways the "Adam and Eve" of the NSA, Elizebeth's story, incredibly, has never been told.

In *The Woman Who Smashed Codes*, Jason Fagone chronicles the life of this extraordinary woman, who played an integral role in our nation's history for forty years. After World War I, Smith used her talents to catch gangsters and smugglers during Prohibition, then accepted a covert mission to discover and expose Nazi spy rings that were spreading like wildfire across South America. As World War II raged, Elizebeth fought a highly classified battle of wits against Hitler's Reich, cracking multiple versions of the Enigma machine used by German spies.

Meanwhile, inside an Army vault in Washington, her husband, William, worked furiously to break Purple, the Japanese version of Enigma. He eventually succeeded, but at a terrible cost to his personal life. *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* is page-turning popular history at its finest.



GAMMA ALPHA EXECUTIVE BOARD COMMITTEES



Co-Presidents: Amy Wright & Carole Lower

Co-Vice-President & Membership: Linda Clark & Lynne Elsesser

Co-Recording Secretary: Joanna Eiwen & Linda Dobrzeniecki

Co-Corresponding Secretary: Jackie Smart & Liz Frazier

Treasurer: Cindy Dietz

Parliamentarian: Pam Sayre

Committees

Grant-in-Aid - Joanna Eiwen

Newsletter & Yearbook Editor – Jackie Smart

Service Projects - Judy Morante, Lynne Elsesser, & Judi Fisher

Finance - Judi Fisher

Sunshine - Esther Loskowske

Vacation Auction - Mary Jo Dreffs, Carol Palk, Sherry Green

50/50 - Cindy Dietz & Esther Loskowske

Used Book Sale – Margie Sievert

Gamma Alpha Annual Auction - Jackie Smart, Pam Husson, Esther Loskowske, Cindy Dietz (& all Gamma Alpha Members)

If you would like to be part of a committee, please contact Amy or Carole.

WEBSITES

DKG Gamma Alpha

www.migammaalpha.org

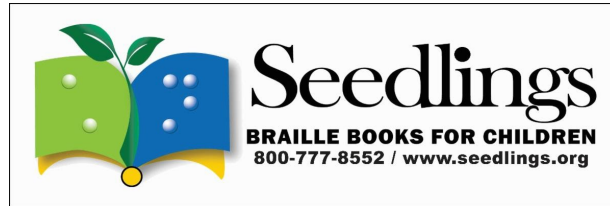
DKG Michigan

www.dkgmichigan.org

DKG International

www.dkg.org

Seedlings Update



Despite the challenges, Seedlings achieved some milestones in 2020:

- For the first time ever, 60% of the books they distributed were given away free! In 2019, it was 56%.
- A record 7,480 books were sent free to children through their Book Angel Program, our biggest giveaway program.
- They now offer more than 600 titles in the new code, Unified English Braille. That makes Seedlings a leader in UEB among braille publishers.
- They expanded their Adopt-A-Reader program to four states: Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and now, Indiana.
- For this, they thank everyone. Debra Bonde says our loyalty and generosity helped them reach goals their goals. She didn't think it was possible during a global pandemic. She says they look forward to a promising 2021.

Dues News from Your Chapter Treasurer

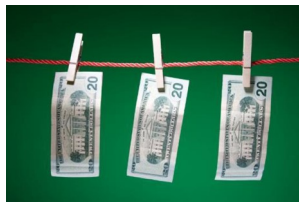
It is time again for news about dues. This is just a heads up since I won't begin collecting dues until the end of April. The dues are the same:

\$85 for active members

\$35 for reserve members

(Reserve status is only granted to those who are unable to participate due to physical disabilities or who are far, far away from ANY DKG chapter. Snow birds are not eligible for reserve status. Send dues to me:

Cindy Dietz
7329 Gilman
Westland, MI 48185



Stay safe! Stay well!

March 11, 2021 Meeting



On March 11, 2021, the group gathered to listen to Deb Woodard, a professional storyteller and teacher. Deb has been animating stories for over thirty years, although this was her first virtual performance. Deb told us that she believes in the power of the written word and the ability of books to ignite readers' imaginations. This principle seeps into Deb's work; through her books and presentations, she encourages children to read, write, engage their imaginations, and discover their potentials. Here is Deb's information if you want to purchase any of her children's books about the bunny themed children's books; *Naughty Pants Believes a Lie*, *Fancy Pants Finds True Beauty*, *Smarty Pants*, *Are You Listening?*:

Website: www.debwoodard.org/books

There are free audio recordings of her 3 books on the website. You may purchase these recordings for \$0.99 each.

Bookstore with her books: Poesy's Gift Gallery, 32184 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48073

Deb's **contact info:** (616) 841-1138 Deb.Woodard105@gmail.com

(Continued from page 1)

I am also looking forward to seeing my lovely Gamma Alpha friends in person again. Please watch my Virtual Installation as State Corresponding Secretary on April 30. Be sure to register.

DKG Super Session Details

Our next DKG Super Session is Tuesday, April 13th at 7 PM.

DKG Event: **Crafting with Claire - Making Beverage Coasters**

Join Women in the Arts Co-Chair Claire Rettenmund to create a great beverage coaster. You will need to be prepared with the following items if you wish to work along with Claire. We will record this for participants who wish to watch again.

Here is a supply list:

- 3"-4" terra cotta flower pot saucers (available from garden centers, hardware stores, some dollar stores, on Amazon)
- Acrylic paint in color of choice (small craft bottle)
- Sheet of scrapbook paper in coordinating colors and design of choice
- Mod Podge (gloss or new outdoor variety)
- Paint brush
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Compass or something to draw circles
- Work surface

To get the link, cut and paste the link in your web browser or just click to link.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXNbjapqH8PKLK0ZgtvccSizlbDN9yH62NY7SnExKIZ23w/viewform>

We look forward to seeing you there!

Yours in DKG,

Amy

