

# Gamma Alpha Chapter History

## Chapter website and archives

[www.migammaalpha.org](http://www.migammaalpha.org)

Dr. Annie Webb Blanton introduced the idea of founding a fraternal women educators' organization. A male who came into her office to discuss educational matters spurred her to this idea. He questioned the fact that women teachers were not working together as a group to improve education and to better the condition of teachers. He further stated that the reason this was not happening was that "women just don't stand together."

Dr. Blanton set down a general plan of the organization and then invited fourteen women to be founders of a national society. Eleven women accepted the challenge. At this point a constitution was written and approved by all twelve women. On May 11, 1929 the first initiation took place and the Delta Kappa Gamma Society came into being.

The Farmington chapter, Beta Eta, had taken the initiative to create a new chapter made up of women educators from Livonia, Wayne-Westland and Garden City. On April 2, 1979 twelve women were initiated into Gamma Alpha. Marcia Wiss-Scarr was elected charter President. Gamma Alpha has maintained a membership between 35 - 40 key women educators since 1980. At this time, Gamma Alpha Chapter accepts interested members from any school district in the area or educators who live in the area, but our membership is still primarily comprised of teachers from Wayne-Westland and Livonia Public Schools.

October 2018, Kappa Chapter dissolved their chapter charter and disbanded. Six Kappa members transferred to Gamma Alpha shortly after. They were:

F. Jose Engel

Diane Frangie

Liz Frazier

Jennifer LaRose

Pam Sayre

Marilyn Wallenmaier

On June 13, 2020, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Gamma Alpha held its first virtual meeting. We initiated three new members, elected new officers, and conducted a business meeting and planned activities for 2020-2021. Gamma Alpha rose to the new normal.