

# Delta Kappa Gamma Chi Chapter July 2022 Newsletter

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## Contacts

### DKG International

<http://www.dkg.org>

### PA State Organization

<http://dkgpa.weebly.com>

### Chi Chapter

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## President's Message

Sue Allen

I am very excited as we begin this biennium. I hope that the email blasts have been helpful to keep you informed as to what Chi chapter is doing. In this newsletter you will read more about what is upcoming for our chapter this fall.

At State Convention I attended the Presidents' Leadership training which was wonderful. We made trail mix to learn how to handle motions and I really enjoyed meeting the other chapter Presidents from across the state. One of our tasks was to create a goal statement. I want to share that goal statement with you: *I want to use my organization skills and creativity to encourage and inspire Chi chapter members to be more active in the organization, invite other to join and increase our communication within the chapter and to our community.*

State President Eileen also asked us to select two goals from her state goals to work on. I selected Membership and STEM. You will see these goals reflected in our projects and programs during this biennium.

Our chapter is only as strong and vibrant as the involvement of our membership. Have you invited an active or retired educator to a meeting? As we return to face to face meetings I encourage you to invite someone as your guest to a meeting.

There is still time and plenty of room for anyone to volunteer for chapter committees. Many hands make light work! We are planning many exciting opportunities in this biennium for you to be involved.

Watch your email for more opportunities as our chapter SOARs in 2022-2024.

Sue

## IMPORTANT DATES

### 2022-2023 Chapter Meetings

- Thursday Sept 15, 4:30-6:30pm Lancaster Tennis and Yacht Club
- Wednesday Nov 9, 4:30-6:30pm Lancaster Tennis and Yacht Club
- Saturday Feb 4, 9-11:30 am Location TBD
- Saturday April 15, 9-11:30am Location TBD

### 2022-2023 Executive Board Meetings via Zoom

- August 10, 2022
- October 5, 2022
- Dec 7, 2022
- March 1, 2023



**Check out the article later in the newspaper about Social Events!**



## MEDIA RELEASE FORMS

Please take a moment and complete the Photo Permission form linked below. This allows Chi chapter to publish pictures from our chapter events.

<https://forms.gle/b6ywkqbWCWZcEEhd9>

## KEYSTONIAN DELIVERY CHANGES

The *Keystonian* delivery is going digital. Paper copies will only be mailed to those who request a copy. To request a mailed copy of the *Keystonian* you will need to go on the PA website and click on the red button that says, *Keystonian* Mailing Form. You need to complete this form by August 1, 2022. If you need assistance with this please contact Sue Allen.



# MEMORIES FROM STATE CONVENTION





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# STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Two (2) new members are needed for the **State Finance Committee** and three (3) new members for the **Nominations Committee**. These committees are elected by the state members. Are you interested in running for these committees? It is a terrific way to get involved at the state level. You need to apply on the State website, click on Home, Nomination for State Office/Committee. Click on fillable pdf. Fill out the form and email it to Barbara Gasperini by October 10, 2022.

## STATE CONVENTION REFLECTION

*By Anna Fulton*

This past June, I attended the Delta Kappa Gamma State convention for the first time, and now I can't stop talking about it. It was one of the most rewarding experiences I have had, and if you have never attended, I highly recommend it! My first thought when I decided to attend was that I would be a little nervous among all the strangers from chapters across the state, but believe me, no one is a stranger at the conference. Everyone went out of their way to be welcoming, and interested in what we in Lancaster are doing. I feel like I made many new friends.

I was contacted before the convention and asked to carry the flag to open the convention. That was fun, even though I inadvertently held it improperly at first. (We left-handers tend to do things backwards). I attended interesting and informative sessions, that I know will help me in my position in Chi chapter. The speakers at all of the events were so inspiring and uplifting, and the celebration of life ceremony was extremely touching and moving. And I learned first hand how DKG can help so many of us through the scholarship and enrichment programs. I had no idea of how much we do for others. Of course, getting to know my fellow sisters better was the best part of the convention. I was thrilled to see that our chapter is highly represented in all the various committees in the state. We have such a great group, and I am prouder than ever to be a part of our Delta Kappa Gamma.

If you have never attended the state convention, I encourage you do go next year. You will find friends, fun, food and festivities that I guarantee you will enjoy. Hope to see you there!

## CHI CHAPTER COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED!

Do you belong to a Chi chapter committee? The following committees are looking for new members. Interested? Please contact the committee chair or email the chapter email ([dkgpachi@gmail.com](mailto:dkgpachi@gmail.com)) and we will pass along your message.

Scholarship/Grant in Aid -  
Chris Kowalski

Programs - Charity Welch

Projects - Nancy Schnell

# KATHY KUZMIAK'S BEQUEST

*By Carol Hartley*

## **Presentation about Chi member Kathy Kuzmiak for State Convention 6-10-22, redacted for Chi Newsletter (Summer, 2022)**

It was an honor and pleasure to speak to the first business session of our 2022 state convention about Kathy Kuzmiak, one of our Chi DKG sisters, and her generosity as a member of The Pennsylvania State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Kathy died October 5, 2021, after a valiant and prolonged struggle with cancer. During her adult life, she has been a respected and trusted public school teacher, administrator and guidance counselor in the School District of Lancaster. She always encouraged her students to set ambitious goals and consider going to college. She worked for better understanding and fairness for students of diverse backgrounds.

Kathy was nominated for membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, Chi chapter, in 2002. She was active at the state level as a member and then Chairman of the PA State Finance Committee for several years. She attended State Convention every year until recently and loved traveling to Regional Conferences and International Conventions. She was recently honored with a nomination to the State "Album of Distinction" for her work with scholarships for students at J. P. McCaskey High School in Lancaster. One was named in her honor for over 35 years of work with the MLK, Jr. Scholarship Committee.

She was passionate about education and her membership in Delta Kappa Gamma and that's why she remembered her DKG sisters through a bequest to The Pennsylvania State Organization.

Kathy's bequest was discussed by your state officers and they wanted as many members as possible to know of her generosity and their plans for how to honor her gift. The total amount was apportioned into five different aspects of Kathy's involvement and interests at the state level.



During her time on the State Finance Committee, Kathy came to understand the importance of seed money for various aspects of the State's activities. Often planners would use their personal charge cards for early expenses.

**The first part** of the gift in the amount of **\$14, 214. 63** has been set aside in the Convention Treasury to provide seed money for expenses incurred for start-up planning of State Conventions. The money could also be used for a keynote speaker or special workshop everyone could enjoy. It will be replaced from registration income for use over and over in future years.

**A second area**, The Permanent Fund, received **\$5000** for the purchase of (Yes, you guessed it) *Permanent* items like induction paraphernalia or computer/technology needs.

**The third area**. The Serendipity Fund, also received **\$5000**. This money can be used to assist members who are impacted by natural disasters or other emergencies.

Kathy always cared about scholarships for new learning, so, **the fourth part** of her bequest is for **\$5000** to The Scholarship Fund. The plan is to create a scholarship in Kathy Kuzmiak's name, giving \$1,000 to a state member in *each* of the next five years.

Learning about history was especially important to Kathy. **The remaining \$5000** will be set aside to be shared with the Purposeful Seminar Committee as seed money for the planning of a Purposeful Seminar each biennium. The amount used will be replaced each time from *your* registrations as attendees.

Now, if you have been keeping track, and can do the math, you may have arrived at the total generous amount of this bequest - \$34, 214.63! Amazing! Thanks go to the state officers who have worked to honor the areas of need that Kathy saw in her forward thinking and fiscally responsible work at the state level of Delta Kappa Gamma on *your* behalf.

But above all, thanks to Kathy Kuzmiak for her caring ways and her desire to make a difference through this bequest of over \$34,000 dollars. She wanted to provide something of value out of her love for Delta Kappa Gamma and you, its members. Kathy has been described by many people as a “forever friend.” We honored that friendship and her passion for education and Delta Kappa Gamma as this gift was officially received and recognized at the State Convention.

Chi members are now official witnesses to Kathy’s generosity. Do you feel the love expressed on your behalf? Kathy chose this way to show her passion about an organization that cares about education and us, its members. THANK YOU, Kathy!

*Kathy Kuzmiak’s recognition at the Celebration of Life ceremony. Each member’s name was placed on the remembrance tree.*



## HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

*By Debbie Bridgewater*

The DKG Pennsylvania Convention was a success! At the business session on Friday, June 10, Sandra Brown-Thomas presented on why she made the choice to join DKG. She shared that she learned that the Society members grow personally and professionally, make a difference in their communities outside their classrooms, and are often recognized as educational leaders. She joined DKG because teaching is a profession she loves and continues to desire to be in with her lifelong goal of spending time among some of the brightest and best of those who share the same passion for teaching. She feels that being a



member of Delta Kappa Gamma provides space where sisters can be surrounded by those who have the same aspirations of being the best teacher.

We all have a voice and a choice, a voice of our talents, our leadership, and our gifts. We can use them to uplift our organization in our continued endeavor to support women educators. (shared from the DKG session minutes, June 10, 2022)

Carol Hartley presented on Kathy Kuzmiak's bequest to the State Organization. It was also announced that Dr. Annie Webb Blanton has been entered into the National Women's History Museum's online holdings for being an inspiring role model and trailblazer in the fields of education and politics. Click on the Women's History tab at the top of the page ([www.women's.history.org](http://www.women's.history.org)), then click on Chronicles of American Women. Once there, click on 'browse the stories.' Scroll to Dr. Annie Webb Blanton and click on her name.

We continue to look at the *Keystonian* publications for the purpose of highlighting our Chi members who have been involved with DKG at the state level. The committee hopes to meet in person in August, but no date has been set.

Members continue to be invited to prepare their autobiographical page(s) on the Google Form or submit a paper copy to Joan Stemen, Marcia Trach, Carol Hartley or Debbie Bridgewater. Contact information is available in the Chi Directory.

To fill out the online google form, please click the link below.

<https://forms.gle/RxJt9xKez4H3VBe6>

## GRANT IN AID RECIPIENT

*By Christine Kowalski*

Congratulations to Carmen Hegarty, our 2022 Grant in Aid recipient. Carmen is a first year teacher at King Elementary School in the School District of Lancaster. She is a second grade teacher.

Carmen has traveled the world through volunteering with Americorps on projects related to disaster response, infrastructure improvement, environmental stewardship, energy conservation, and urban development. Those experiences left her with a thirst to seek a better understanding of life and education in other cultures. She quenched that thirst by teaching in Germany, China, and France.

She plans to use the awarded money to purchase high-interest books to be added to her classroom library, supplies such as noise cancelling headphones so students can take online assessments without hearing the background noise of the classroom, fidget chair bands so students can exert energy safely while completing seat work, content, and social emotional posters to display, a large area rug, bean bag chairs, healthy snacks, tissues, prizes and extra uniform sweaters. She would also like to make her room aesthetically appealing by painting the walls. She is ambitious and motivated and will use the money wisely. Congratulations, Carmen!





# SOCIAL COMMITTEE EVENTS

By Melissa Ostrowski

**Book Club** dates are:

- Thursday November 10, 6pm Panera on Rohrerstown Road
- Thursday January 12, 6 pm Panera on Rohrerstown Road
- Thursday March 9, 6 pm Panera on Rohrerstown Road
- Thursday May 11, 6pm Panera on Rohrerstown Road

Submissions for book suggestions will close July 30, 2022. They can still be made at this [Link](#)

## **Back to School Social at Long's Park August 21**

Join us for a night of music before heading back to school! *Cherish the Ladies* will perform Celtic music at the Amphitheater at 7:30. We will gather to socialize starting at 6pm. We will gather at the picnic tables on the top of the hill directly facing the amphitheater. BYO chair! Food trucks are available, and retired CHI members will bring the desserts! Families are welcome! Please RSVP to Marcia Trach by August 15, 2022

## **Upcoming Events:**

**October** - Thursday Night Event- stay tuned for date/time/location

**December** - Amish Cookie Tour- Saturday in December

**Spring Day Trip** to Jim Thorpe on a Saturday or Sunday; Stay tuned for details!

We plan to take the Reading-Blue Mountain railroad trip to Jim Thorpe for the day. Cost is \$39 for a round trip ticket from the Reading Outer Station.

Departure is at 9 a.m., with an arrival in Jim Thorpe at 11:20 a.m. During the ride, passengers see rolling farmland, beautiful mountains, glistening lakes, and small towns along the Reading-Blue Mountain mainline. The train will also travel through tunnels and over bridges, a highlight being the Hometown High Bridge. Upon arrival in Jim Thorpe, visitors have more than 3 1/2 hours to explore the many shops, restaurants, and attractions before boarding the train for the return trip. (While in Jim Thorpe, one attraction is to ride one of their 70-minute Lehigh Gorge trains at a discounted rate. Tickets can be purchased at the Jim Thorpe Ticket Booth upon arrival.) The train departs from Jim Thorpe at 3:50 p.m., with an arrival time in the Reading Outer Station at 6:30 p.m.

Excursions are scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays

## FAREWELL MESSAGE

*By Susan Fritz*

Dear Chi Sisters,

Thank you for the beautiful gold, Alex and Ani bracelet and red rose charm I received at the April meeting. Thank you also for the kind words and sentiments sent to Amy Smith to include in the album she presented to me at the meeting. These expressions of appreciation mean more than you can ever know, and I will treasure these special mementos of the two years I spent as Chi Chapter President.

Someone at State Convention joked (???) that those serving during the 2020-2022 Biennium will be known forever as the "COVID Presidents". I admit that my years as president were different than I had anticipated. My greatest disappointment was the inability for us to meet in person and experience the fellowship and infectious conversation and idea sharing that being together elicits. It is quite the sign of my COVID Presidency that out of 16 Executive Board and Chapter meetings, the only two in person meetings I scheduled were on days and times when there was prodigious rainfall as well as thunder and lightning! Fortunately, the day the committee selected for the Necrology Service was sunny and beautiful.

I am grateful to those who attended Zoom meetings despite spending numerous hours on Zoom while teaching and serving your communities. I also am grateful to those who reached out by letter, email, text, and phone calls to provide encouragement and support. I especially appreciated the multiple ways that support was expressed when my mother and sister passed away within three weeks of one another in 2021.

It was my privilege to serve with the wonderful sisters who were on the Executive Board during the 2020-2022 Biennium: Former Past President Marj Paradise - Nominations, Immediate Past President Young - Induction, Parliamentarian & newsletter proofer Gisele Siebold, First Vice President Andrea Rutledge - Programs & EEC Chair, Second Vice President Marlene Reynolds - Membership & Necrology, Secretary Brittany Bertoli - Communications &



Publicity and Social Committee Chair 2020-21 , Treasurer Marcia Trach, Finance Chair Paula Long, Newsletter editor and Social Committee Chair 2021-22 Sue Allen, Projects Chair Amy Smith - photographer & cards, Historical Records Chairs Carol Hartley and Debbie Bridgewater, Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) Chair Nancy Schnell, Scholarship/Grant in Aide Chair Chris Kowalski, Ways & Means Chair Anna Fulton, Professional Affairs Chair Brenda Walker, Book Club Chairs Barb Andrews 2020-21 and Melissa Ostrowski 2021-22, and Webmaster Nancy Frederick. Many thanks to these special women and those who joined them on committees, projects, and events throughout the past two years. As you can see, it takes many hands, hearts, and minds to perform the tasks that create the structure for a chapter.

I know you share my anticipation for the new biennium and what our new leadership team has in store for us. Please say "yes" when you can when invited to participate. Best wishes to a wonderful and rejuvenating summer.

